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## Every West Bank University Raided

# Military Arrest Students, Bar Teachers, Grab Books

The Israeli civil administration have decided to renew demands that all foreign lecturers in West Bank universities sign a political undertaking pledging not to support the PLO, Israel Radio reported, January 18.

The radio report said that four foreign lecturers from Hebron University were summoned to the military headquarters, January 17, and ordered not to teach following their refusal to sing the pledge. The Jerusalem Post quoted sources in Hebron University which said that an official of the civil administration called Barukh, summoned the four lecturers, three of whom are British and the fourth Irish and informed them of the order.

Foreign lecturers were first ordered to sign the same undertaking last August, and several of them were deported after they refused. . . . . .(Translation: Al Fajr, 19. 1. 83)

All members of the newly-elected Al Najah University Students Council (pictured left) are now in detention facing trial for "incitement."

## Hebron Foreign Faculty Banned

HEBRON — Studies at Hebron University were disrupted for the third consecutive day after Israeli forces set up barriers on roads around the university, preventing students and staff from reaching the campus.

Students at the university demonstrated the day before yesterday in protest against the banning of four foreign teachers from working without prior permission from the military.

The military authorities in the Hebron area summoned the four and informed them that they were banned from teaching and that "legal steps" would be taken against them if they returned to their posts. They were further threatened that certain undefined consequences would face them.

The teachers consider that the ban is related to the detention of 30 students from the university during a celebration of the 18th anniversary of the birth of the Palestinian National Movement: 18 of these students are still being held.

The military authorities have demanded that the teachers sign a declaration in order to obtain a work permit for the West Bank. The teachers describe it as "extremely political in character." It contains a statement on "not supporting or helping the PLO or any organisation hostile to Israel."

The head of the English Faculty at Hebron University said that this ban has led to the effective closure of the faculty and prevents 300 students from continuing their studies. "This causes great problems to students and staff alike," he said. The ban means that there will be no second semester at Hebron University.

(Translation: Al Shaab, 18. 1. 83)

## Night Swoop on Bethlehem University

Israeli soldiers raided Bethlehem University campus, January 13, and confiscated posters, notices and announcements, Students Council files, and books from an exhibit which had been held on campus. The raid took place at the end of the Palestinian Songs Festival which was organised by university students.

Earlier in the day scores of Israeli soldiers occupied the rooftops of neighbouring buildings, set up roadblocks at the entrances, and registered the ID numbers of students who arrived at the campus. Soldiers also detained a bus load of students, mostly from Hebron University, and took them to Fara'a detention camp near Jenin. More than 40 students from Bethlehem University were also detained.

The following day the Israeli military authorities summoned Dr. Anton Sansour, Executive-Vice President of the university and questioned him about the confiscated material. They also told him that they are in the course of establishing a special committee to determine the type of punishment they are going to impose on the university and the students.

The university issued a statement protesting the Israeli authorities' measures, which they said, violated academic freedom. The statement called on peace-loving forces to intervene in order to put an end to the Israeli measures.

Early last week, Israeli soldiers raided the campus of Najah University in Nablus, and arrested all nine members of the student council. Israeli newspapers reported that council members will be brought to court on charges of "inciting students." Hebron University was harassed by Israeli soldiers and members of the Village Leagues.

(Translation: Al Tali'a, 20. 1. 83)

## Land Grab Of 20,000 Dunums Will Make Dhahriyeh Landless

Israeli settlers accompanied by a military jeep visited Dhahriyeh village near Hebron January 12 and informed the mukhtars of the authorities' decision to confiscate 20,000 dunums of land. The landowners refused to accept the confiscation order and were reported to be preparing the necessary documents in order to take the case to court.

The grabbed land is located in the southern and eastern hills of the village and is adjacent to a previously grabbed plot south of the village of Samu', known as Rajm al-Madfa'. A visitor to the area noticed that the grabbed area overlooks a settlement still under construction, (Omer B) near Beer Sheba.

The landowners say that adding the new confiscation to previous land grabs, the village has become virtually landless. At the beginning of 1982, Israeli authorities seized 5,000 dunums of land located in the western part of the village. The largest land grab however, was at the end of 1982 when 30,000 dunums were confiscated from the village's southern hills.

(Translation: Al Tali'a, 20. 1. 83)

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# Jordan Denies Agreement With PLO

AMMAN, AFP — A senior Jordanian official told **Agence France Presse** that King Hussein and Yasir Arafat, leader of the PLO, have not reached any agreement on the names of Palestinian personalities nominated for inclusion in the Palestinian-Jordanian delegation in the event of peace negotiations taking place.

Some press reports indicated that Jordan and the PLO had agreed to nominate Rashad Shawwa, the mayor of Gaza who was dismissed from his post by the Israeli authorities, Elias Freij, the mayor of Bethlehem, Fahd Qawasmi, the exiled-mayor of Hebron and Sabri Khalaf, the mayor of Jericho, to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The negotiations which started a few months ago between Jordan and the PLO are intended to lead to an accord on the terms of the participation of the Jordanians and the Palestinians in possible peace negotiations, although these negotiations have not come up with any definite proposal, according to the Jordanian official who preferred to remain anonymous.

Observers note that these statements correspond to others made recently by PLO officials.

There has also been no agreement on the form of future unity between the Jordanian and Palestinian people although the PLO and Jordan arrived at an accord last November on a framework for major plans for a united Jordanian-Palestinian state.

It has been decided that Arafat will visit Jordan at the end of this month to inform King Hussein of the decisions of the PLO Executive Committee before the meeting of the Palestinian National Council on February 14 in Algiers.

The Palestinian National Council decides on the direction and goals of the PLO.

Translation: Al Fajr, 18, 1, 83

## LEBANESE-ISRAELI AGENDA FIXED

Israeli American and Lebanese delegates finally agreed on an agenda for winding up the present war January 13. After weeks of wrangling over Israel's demands that 'normalisation' be discussed, the three parties agreed a three point agenda which would lead to simultaneous discussion of all points without necessarily reaching a conclusion.

However there still wide diversions between the Lebanese and Israeli positions on key issues. In an attempt to get movement, US Special Envoy to the Middle East, Philip Habib, arrived in the region at the beginning of the week announcing that he expected Israeli troops out by Feberuary 12.

When Israel's Foreign Ministry Director General, David Kimche, emerged from the morning session of talks at Kiryat Shemona to announce the agenda, he broke three weeks of total deadlock. The compromise schedule allows for simultaneous discussion of (1) termination of the state of war; (2) security arrangements; (3) a framework for mutual relations to include trade, passage of tourists and goods as well as telecommunications and postal links. A note attatched to the end of the agenda specified that all items would be discussed "open-mindedly" without any "commitment to the outcome of the negotiations."

In the first substantial progrees in the session, the three delegates emerged from a Monday, January 17, meeting to announce that a special committee had been formed and assigned the job of reaching an agreement on conditions for ending the state of war between Israel and Lebanon.

News agency reports from the talks said that Lebanese chief delegate Antoine Fattal has made it clear that agreement to end the state of war is linked to the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

### Massacre Commission Finishing Report

The Israeli commission of inquiry into the mid-September massacres in Sabra and Shatila held its final open session, January 16. The three person inquiry board has now retired to write up its findings. It is expected this will take about a month to prepare.

The final session was devoted to hearing summations from lawyers representing six of the nine VIPs who were warned in November that the commission's findings might 'harm' them. Israel's Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and head of military intelligence Yehoshua Saguy did not present final verbal evidence to the commission.


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# INTELLECTUALS, WORKERS JOIN ANTI-SETTLEMENT DEMO

A group of over 2500 Peace Now activists and residents of the Jerusalem slum neighbourhood, Musrara, demonstrated for three-and-a-half hours at Efrat settlement, 10 kilometres south of Bethlehem, January 15. Protestors covered half finished apartments with posters and huge placards calling for cash to be diverted from settlements to slum rehabilitation and welfare.

Despite their large number demonstrators arrived at Efrat semi-covertly. Initially organizers had told reporters that they were going to demonstrate at Elkana, near Nablus, and indeed held a small protest there to divert attention.

Meanwhile 20 buses and over 100 cars moved the bulk of the demonstrators to Efrat mid-afternoon. They left around 8:00 pm.

According to Amiram Goldblum, Peace Now activist, settlers attempted to provoke the protesters and some arguments ensued. Goldblum said demonstrators received strict orders not to damage property. When reports of vanadalism appeared a few days later Goldblum speculated that settlers perhaps damaged unfinished buildings themselves.

Observers of the Israeli left note that the demonstration marks a big step forward for the peace movement. Oriental Jewish slum-dwellers, like those of Musrara, are generally labelled Begin supporters, highly antagonistic to the Ashkenazi middle-class Peace Now. Commenting on this, Goldblum said the joint demonstration occurred "mainly because Israelis have begun to understand the social, political and economic impact of the crazy policy of the Begin government." He called the sums spent on settlement: "wasting money which could be used in the public housing projects for underpriviliged Israelis. Politically, of course, this policy harms the peace process.

"The impact of this demonstration and other activities of Peace Now," Goldblum told **Al Fajr**, "cannot be measured from the coverage in the Israeli newspapers, but only when the Israeli population reaches the conclusion that peace is needed for them to live in security." Goldblum said Palestinians in the occupied territories must form a Palestinian Peace Now faction.

"We will continue opposing all kinds of settlements in the West Bank," Goldblum stressed, "Our protest tactics depend on the circumstances. Efrat was the symbol of older Israeli settlements in the West Bank. That's why we decided to demonstrate there."

# Histadrut Confirms Political Firing

Anti-war activist Assaf Adiv, learned, January 15, that the central follow-up committee of the Histadrut has approved his dismissal from the Hamat factory in Tel Aviv. He was fired in the first month of the war in Lebanon, because of his open opposition to the conflict.

In their report the Histadrut committee, which convened December 26 to hear the claims of both sides, ruled that the dismissal was not politically motivated. They found that Adiv allegedly violated factory discipline by preventing "any attempt to calm tempers among the workers."

Observers of the trial, however, note that the charges directed against Adiv by the factory administration after his firing were that he "held dialogues with Arab workers "and that "he continued to express his opposition to the war at the time it was taking place."

Adiv, who is an active member in the Israeli Revolutionary Communist League, attacked the decision of the Histadrut committee "It is arbitrary and unjust," he told **Al Fajr**.

In a press release issued after he learned of the decision, Adiv explained, "this decision constitutes an unprecedent danger to the right of free speech and democracy which has always threatened leftists and Arabs and now threatens others."

Adiv is considering going to the high court "with a complaint about political firing." Three other Israelis were fired for their political views during the same period.

# Israeli Tourism Minister Condemned for "PLO-Link" Gaff

Israeli diplomats have described the statements of Israeli Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir to a delegation of the Jewish National Fund in Paris as "stupid" and charged that he has put them "in an embarrassing position." The minister also faces strong criticism from Likud MKs and the opposition Labour Party.

Sharir said that the PLO as well as Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries were, before the Lebanese war, ready to make contact with Israel via the US to agree on a non-hostility pact.

Sharir said January 14 that Israel's invasion of Lebanon was partly motivated by a desire to sabotage a non-aggression pact the PLO had sought to make with Israel, according to the Paris correspondents of **Davar** and **Yediot Ahronot**.

Sharir, addressing a group of Israel Bonds leaders in Paris, was quoted by the papers as saying that the PLO offer had been made through US diplomatic channels. The offer was rejected because of fears that such an agreement would free the PLO to attack Jewish targets outside Israel, Sharir was quoted as saying.

Sharir later told Israel Radio that he had been misquoted, and was actually referring to a cease-fire sought by the PLO, but this was contradicted by Likud MK Benny Shalita.

Shalita, a member of the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee, confirmed that the committee was told by a senior Israeli army officer before the war that a non-aggression pact could be reached with the PLO at any time, because the organization was interested in "protecting its soft underbelly in Lebanon while building up its forces."

Reactions to the report were sharp and critical. MK Victor Shemtov (Mapam), a member of the foreign affairs and defence committee, called the revelation "startling and damning."

Shinui MK Mordechai Virshuvsky sent a telegram to Prime Minister Menachem Begin, charging that Sharir's comments could have been avoided if Begin, in his briefings to the Knesset factions, had apprised them of the PLO offer.

Sharir had done Israel's image grave harm by his statement and if it is unfounded, the government must repudiate it forthwith, Virshuvsky said.

Former cabinet minister Yitzhak Berman said that he had never heard of the PLO offer.

**(Translation: From Al Quds The Jerusalem Post**

# Court Stops Demolition of 29 Beit Lahiya Homes

The Israeli High Court issued an order **nisi**, January 18, prohibiting the demolition of 29 houses in Beit Lahia in the Gaza Strip. Officials from the military authorities' housing department informed 70 residents from the village of their intention to demolish their houses on the pretext that they were built on government land. All house owners say that their houses were built before 1967.

In their petition, home owners demand that the defence minister and the military governor of the Gaza Strip explain why they have not cancelled orders to demolish their houses. The order **nisi** was issued on the request of Lawyer Felicia Langer. Langer said that all her clients have been living in their homes for decades, and that they have been paying for village council provided electricity and water services. The petitioners also requested that they join three other house owners who received order **nisi** two days earlier, for the same purpose.

Langer stressed in court that the authorities are acting contrary to Article 78 of the Ottoman Laws of 1858 which still apply in the Gaza Strip.

Translation:
Al Fajr, 19. 1. 83

## GAZANS PROTEST INTRODUCTION OF TAXES

Gaza merchants recently received comprehensive financial questionnaires from the military authorities which demand they reveal their capital holdings. The forms, issued almost a month ago and demanding details of property and income, . . . . . **The Jerusalem Post** adds: "The demand has already caused widespread resentment among local businessmen, who struck 18 months ago for several weeks to protest the introduction of Value Added Tax along the lines of the Israeli tax laws."

. . . . . .

Awni Fehail, owned of a cassette and tape recorder shop in Gaza, complained about inflation and the high taxes imposed on him. "I have to work hard, . . . . . .

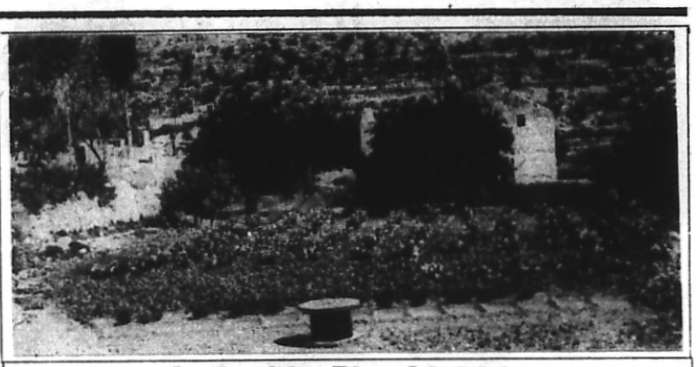
## ISRAELI ATTACKED IN JENIN

JENIN — Israeli Radio reported that the Israeli "officer in charge of nature preservation" received facial injuries after his car was stoned in Jenin. The radio report noted that the officer had passed by a number of high school students standing outside their school when the stone throwing began.

The officer is reported to have lowered the window of his car and started shooting when a stone hit him in the face. Israeli forces are reported to have arrested a number of students.

Thirty minutes after this incident another Israeli car was attacked by Jenin students. The stone throwers broke the windows of the car, the radio report said.

Translation:
Al Fajr, 18. 1. 83



# Authorities Plan 28,000 Dunum Grab in Nablus Area

Israeli military authorities declared 28,000 dunums of land belonging to Palestinian residents from Kufr Qalil, Azmout, Salem, Askar, Deir al-Hatab, and Beit Furik, all in the Nablus area, state land, January 18.

The Israeli Custodian of Absentee Property sent letters to the Mukhtars of the six villages informing them of the authorities' decision. The land in question is mostly plains land near the village of Askar.

The village residents, who rejected the confiscation order, are reported to be preparing documents to take their case to court.

(Translation: Al Quds, 19. 1. 83)

# WB Professional Associations Denounce Daqqaq's Town Arrest

Ibrahim Daqqaq

The Federation of Professional Associations in the West Bank issued a statement January 12 denouncing the town-arrest of Ibrahim Daqqaq, chairman of the West Bank Engineers federation Union which organises physicians, dentists, engineers, agricultural engineers, lawyers and pharmacists demanded the Israeli authorities "immediately cease arbitrary measures, end the harassment of the chairman of the Engineers Union, restore his freedom and allow him to exercise his responsibilities in full."

The federation called the measures against Daqqaq an "inhumane punishment . . . a patent infringement of (his) basic rights." Using the term made known by Amnesty International, the professional association stated they consider Daqqaq a "prisoner of conscience."

Noting that Daqqaq's political position does not "differ in any degree from that of all Palestinians who seek a just and lasting settlement in the area based on United Nations resolutions, the federation called on "all humanitarian and professional bodies everywhere . . . to strongly denounce this flagrant violation of freedom and to do all in their power to terminate this grave injustice."

The administrative restriction order, which lasts for six months, was issued by Uri Orr, the Israeli military commander of the central region on January 1. Under it, Daqqaq cannot leave Jerusalem and must be in his house from dusk to dawn. Ibrahim Daqqaq has been under town arrest since August, 1980.

# Hebron Charitable Organisation Grants Students,...Scholarships

The Federation of Charitable Organizations (FCO) in Hebron announced January 14 that it has finished distributing its 1982 allocation of JD6000 to high school students . . . . . in the Hebron district. The FCO administration spent last week distributing cash to high school students . . . . . in Hebron . . . who have decided to sit for the **tawjihi** exam for the 1982-83 scholastic year. . . . . .

The FCO visited 16 secondary schools in Hebron, Halhoul, Surif, Idna, Tarqumia, Beit Awwa, Dura, Dhahriyyeh, Yatta and Beni Naim. JD500 was also distributed among private students, affiliated to the University Graduates Society in Hebron.

Dr. Abd al-Rahman Namoura, member of the FCO administration, told **Al Fajr** that the JD6000 offered to the students covers 15 percent of the total fees paid by Hebronites annually. "We gave the funds to the principals of schools and each distributed the money among the needy students. Each needy student got at least JD 10 to cover the JD15 fee for the **tawjihi** exam," he added.

As well as helping needy students the FCO pays salaries to teachers in 70 illiteracy centres in the Hebron area, to 20 women sewing teachers, and 25 women kindergarten teachers. "Besides this we help handicapped patients by covering one-third of the cost of artificial limbs," said Abd al-Rahman Namoura. The FCO also gives scholarships to 15 women students studying nursing at Bethlehem University.

There are four charitable federations in the occupied territories, based in Hebron, Jerusalem, Nablus and Gaza. They offer services to more than 120 charitable organisations.

# Results of Trial May Prove Eitan Ordered Student-Beating

Defence lawyer for one Israeli officer and six soldiers accused of assaulting and maltreating Palestinian students from Hebron during the Spring uprising presented documents to a military court in Tel Aviv, January 19, which if authenticated, will show that Israeli Chief-of-Staff, Rafael Eitan, gave orders to indiscriminately harass West Bankers.

The full contents of the documents, minutes of a staff meeting Eitan held after a West Bank tour, were not released in court.

During the hearing, Captain Akiva Saronowitz testified that he heard Hebron District Commander Shalom Lugassi give orders, March 15, to shoot at water heating units, break watches on the wrists of detainees and shoot into the alleys of Dheisheh refugee camp in order to enforce a curfew.

He also testified that there was a system of "preventative arrests" under which people were detained without having been suspected of having committed any offence. When asked how he interpreted an order from the West Bank military commander "to deal with" protesters, the officer said he had no doubt that it meant they should be beaten up.

The trial is continuing.

Last month a sergeant, found guilty of "illegal use of weapons" during an incident in which two Halhoul youths were shot dead, was sentenced to a three months suspended term.

The trials are being held as a result of complaints made by Israeli reserve officers who are Peace Now members, that incidents which occurred in the West Bank during the uprising were not properly investigated.

# "It's an offence to be Palestinian in Beirut today."

by Livia Rokach
Our Rome Correspondent

ROME — Attorney Madeleine Laifue-Veron, a French laywer was arrested, interrogated and later expelled by the Lebanese police who forced her onto a plane to Paris, January 15. She was detained while conducting a fact-finding mission in Beirut regarding Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners and missing and on violations of the human rights of the Palestinian population.

The Lebanese police affirmed that Attorney Veron's arrest and expulsion were due to "her meetings in South Lebanon and in Beirut with persons whose names are included on a blacklist." Attorney Veron came to Beirut from Israel where she collected evidence on the condition of Palestinian prisoners from Lebanon transferred to prisons and detention camps in both Israel and South Lebanon.

. . . . . In a related development the Rome Centre of Information for the Defense of the Palestinian and Lebanese Civilian Population, Prisoners and Missing (CIDPLPPM) has accused the Italian Minister of Defence, who last week promised Lebanese President Amin Gemayel a doubling of the presence of the Italian military forces in Beirut and large amounts of financial aid and military advisors for the Lebanese army, of not requesting an exchange agreement — the Italian forces for the liberation of Palestinian prisoners and missing held by the Lebanese army in Beirut. He thus gives cover, the CIDPLPPM accuses, through the presence of the Italian military in Beirut, to the continued illegal detention of thousands of Palestinian prisoners and to the continued persecution of the Palestinian population in west Beirut.

Two weeks after the massacre in Sabra and Shatila, the Lebanese government, jointly with the governments of the United States, France and Italy, officially assumed responsibility for the protection of the civilian Palestinian population in Beirut. A few days later, in early October, round-ups of Palestinian civilians in west Beirut by armed Lebanese forces and the high number of persons arrested, kidnapped and "disappeared," took on such alarming dimensions that they provoked vigorous international protest.

The Italian government was then forced to solemnly declare that "the presence of Italian troops in Beirut will never be allowed to be used as a cover for the violation of human rights." The French Foreign Minister was obliged to deny, despite blatant evidence to the contrary, that French troops "never participated in the round-ups and related searches." The US State Department expressed "grave concern" about the situation of civilian Palestinians in the Lebanese capital. Ever since, however, an almost impenetrable curtain of silence and complicity has decended over the Palestinians in Beirut. To be a Palestinian in the Lebanese capital has become increasingly similar to what it was like to be a Jew in Berlin or in Vienna in 1938.

Handicapped men in an independent workshop run by Palestinians in Lebanon before the war. Who will serve them now?

A 13-year-old Palestinian boy who has survived the horrors and carnage of the war with his widowed mother and six younger brothers and sisters has described the situation in a recent letter to a friend in Europe: "We have no money because no Lebanese would give work to a Palestinian in his shop or office. We cannot walk in the streets because if the Lebanese army catches a Palestinian they take him to prison and beat him there. If we go to an embassy to ask for a visa in order to get out of here they don't give it to us because, according to them, the Palestinian people are no good . . ."

The boy's father, now dead, had worked for many years as an employee of a Palestinian institution. The family, therefore, is entitled to a small pension. But in recent weeks a number of persons found to be carrying money to be distributed as pensions or support to members of families of Palestinian war victims, prisoners or missing have been arrested and charged with "attempts to reorganise the presence of the Palestinians in Lebanon" — a crime under the Gemayel regime.

An attempt by Samed, which before the war supplied work to more than 1500 Palestinian workers in Beirut, to reopen one of its workshops on the periphery of Burj al-Barajneh camp — which could give work to 300 persons, was suppressed last week by the Lebanese army. Deprived of legal status, of official guarantees and of the presence of foreign personnel who in some way represent their protection against all-out aggression and harassment, the Palestinian Red Crescent continues to furnish a minimum of medical services to the camp populations.

This is done with reduced personnel, few means and at great risk. In other words, the Palestinian population in Beirut is being increasingly deprived of all means of survival and imprisoned in a network of pressures and old and new laws directed to suffocate its existance.

Hundreds of Palestinian families, who in the past lived in west Beirut neighbourhoods other than the camps, have now been evicted from their homes. Almost no Lebanese is disposed to let an apartment to Palestinians; besides, rent has gone up to such an extent that few Palestinians could afford it in any case. Two rooms in a poor neighbourhood now cost around US $250 in monthly rent, a sum equivalent to the maximum a Palestinian could earn in Beirut if he were given work, for example, as a skilled labourer in the construction sector. In this field too the Lebanese Ministry of Labour, however, after recently decreeing several limitiations on work permits for "foreigners" prefers to employ a Syrian labour force.

The evicted families are, therefore, forced to seek refuge in precarious shacks in the area formally considered part of the camps zone but where they are again daily threatened with forced removal by the "bulldozer squads" which are intensely engaged in the destruction and levelling of large parts of Sabra, Shatila and Burj al-Barajneh. The Gemayel regime now strictly limits the camp area to the perimeter originally inhabited by the 1948 refugees. Already for the 25,-30,000 Palestinian who are at present crammed into this overcrowded place, sixty percent of which consists moreover of hardly habitable ruins, this last refuge is rapidly becoming a stifling ghetto.

Huge construction works undertaken through southern west Beirut from Fakhani to the Stadium are beginning to shut them in on all sides and to threaten them with further eviction. "I find it highly significant that the Lebanese government has chosen to undertake such reconstruction work starting from this area rather than from other damaged areas," Jean Pierre Metral, secretary of the Swiss Socialist Party who has just returned from a visit to Lebanon told **Al Fajr**: "Indeed the the Lebanese government seems to be in a great hurry to obliterate every sign of the recent Israeli bombings and of the sufferings inflicted on the population in this part of the town, while much older ruins caused for example in east Beirut neighbourhoods such as Ashrafiyyeh and Ein al-Ramaneh by Syrian shellings are left untouched. There is an evident political intent to eliminate all evidence of Israeli atrocities while conserving on show all alleged motives for resentment toward other parties . . . This of course is in addition to the wish to push out and disperse the Palestinian and poor Lebanese population of the southern quarters."

But above all there is the terror which continues to be exercised against these populations. On January 6 Mitral witnessed a huge round-up during which the Lebanese army sealed-off completely the entire area from the Gallery Sam'an to Uzai and proceeded to carry out house-to-house searches and arrests. The Lebanese government admitted the arrest of 46 persons described in the Nazi-language of the Phalangist Radio as "criminal collaborators, Palestinians and Communists who will be court martialled by military tribunals." According to more reliable sources, between 200 and 300 persons, at least, were taken away from their homes, mostly in Burj al-Barajneh and adjacent neighbourhoods.

. . . . . The large gap between the officially admitted number of arrested persons and that of the persons actually "confiscated" cannot but give rise to even more serious concern. It means that more hundreds of persons have been made to enlarge the ranks of the thousands of missing Palestinians and Lebanese whose fate continues to be surrounded by the criminal silence of the Lebanese authorities and of their American and European allies and protectors.

The number of Palestinian missing alone, among those arrested and kidnapped in west Beirut since the deployment there of the Multi-National Force is evaluated, according to the lowest estimations, at well over 2000. Hundreds of them are reported held in prefabricated hangers set up especially to house them at the Lebanese Defence Ministry in Yarve where the basement of the Ministry's main building is now overcrammed with other Palestinian prisoners.

In Yarve, where these "disappeared" are often left for four of five days without water and in the Baddarro barracks where food is served only once daily,control is exercised by the Phalangists who are also used by the army and security forces to attack members of the prisoners' families who try to obtain news of their relatives or try to bring food to them

Among many such cases there is that of NN, the sister of a Palestinian militant kidnapped together with her mother and two children on her way back home from the prison by a Phalangist commando which awaited them. The mother and the children were released after a few days but for over a month now there has been no news of the girl.

Despite such risks, large groups of Palestinian women meet at the main square of Sabra camp and proceed from there on foot to the Baddarro barracks in a daily effort to obtain news of their relatives or to implore the guards to pass on food to a father, a husband, a son, a brother and at the end of December a committtee concerned with the case of missing Palestinians presented to Pierre Gemayel, president of the Phalangist Party, a list of 250 persons who are known with certainty to be in the hands of the Phalangists. The Kata'eb leadership, however, continues to deny against all evidence, the existence of prisoners in the hands of its men.

On the other hand the ambassadors in Beirut of the United States, France and Italy also have in their possession long lists of prisoners and missing, some of them supplied by their own troops present at the site of the kidnappings and arrests. But the diplomats of these three countries seem to firmly ignore their responsibilities and pledges in regard to the safety and well-being of the Palestinians in Beirut. And this despite the major clause in their position which enables them to force the Gemayel regime to change its attitude towards the Palestinians with hardly more than a whistle.

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# PEACE?

"Peace process" rumours are spreading again along with allegations in Israeli and foreign papers that a split in the PLO is imminent. At the same time Israeli peace forces, in this case Peace Now, are strengthening links with Israeli workers and attempting joint action on the ground in the occupied territories. These two events underline the stark contrast between two approaches to peace in the Middle East.

For the US, and their Israeli and European allies, "peace" will come to the Middle East through the destruction of the Palestinian people's representation. For the past few months hardly a week has gone by without some headline-hitting speculations of the imminent dissolution of the PLO; or some announcement of further US/European demands for unilateral concessions. Israel, of course, keeps reiterating its refusal to talk to any Palestinian it doesn't like.

As each story of splits and conflict is dimissed, Western interest wanes and awaits the next opportunity. Meanwhile, Israel continues its dollar-backed expansionist drive in the occupied territories.

On the other hand, seemingly impervious to the need to batter Palestinians into "peaceful" surrender, Peace Now has undertaken a new campaign based on protection of rights. First they attempted to move in to help rebuild electricity pylons destroyed by Kiryat Arba settlers. The military closed off the whole of Hebron to stop them.

Learning fast, they announced a demonstration in one part of the West Bank and held it in another. Unable to break it up, the authorities just labelled them "vandals."

What "peace" can we expect here from a world that views peace activists and workers demanding social benefits not settlements, "vandals," and regards Palestinians united behind their programme of a state and self-determination as obstacles.

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# U.S. Poll Shows:
# Most Americans Don't Support Expansionist Israel

by Ghassan Bishara, Washington, DC Correspondent

US governments from that of Harry Truman in the '40s to Ronald Reagan in the '80s, Republican and Democrat, liberal and conservative, have all rationalised their support for Israel simply by saying that they are acting in support of the sympathies of the majority of the American people. What better policy in a democracy such as that in the US than one guided by its people? But perhaps that conception will now have to change since a survey conducted by Reagan's own pollster has shown that the American public is not in agreement with the present administration's handling of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

The survey, by Richard Worthlin, for the Institute for Arab Studies in Belmont, Massachusetts, was carried out in the tradition of the behavioural school of American political science. It involved interviewing 1020 individuals over the age of 18 representing a cross-section of the public. The survey was conducted between October 6 and 11, 1982, with an error range, organisers said, of three percent. Reaction to the poll in the US has been by and large neutral. The only heat came from those who attacked Richard Worthlin, for agreeing to conduct a poll while still Reagan's pollster. Some Jewish-American pollsters have also called the poll "biased" and some of the questions "loaded" to get a required response.

A significant finding of the poll is the American public's lack of information on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and misinformation on which views are formed. In an important division of opinion, a large section of the American public reflected more sympathy for the Palestinians if, in follow-up questions, correct information was provided.

Regarding support for the Palestinian state, 76 percent of the respondents believed that "based on the 1947 partition plan for Palestine, the Palestinians should have the right to establish a state of their own." Eleven percent disagreed with the above, but 69 percent of those changed their negative opinion when informed that half of the 4.5 million Palestinians in the world are "stateless refugees" and "the majority of the remaining half live under Israeli occupation." Those polled agreed by 55 to 37 percent, that the US "should help the Palestinians establish this state." Peace in the Middle East, it was agreed by 65 percent of those polled, will not be achieved "until the Palestinians have a state" and 83 percent "favor a Palestinian representation at the talks to bring that about."

### Attitudes Towards the PLO

Despite the constant negative reporting about the PLO role in the US, 31 percent believed "the PLO is the Palestinian people's representative," while 46 percent disagreed and 23 percent did not know. Thirty percent of those asked "think the US government should recognise the PLO as the official representative of the Palestinian people." Of the 55 percent who disagreed, 31 percent shifted to 'yes' when informed that 108 governments in the world "recognise the PLO . . . as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

When questioned about the major points of the September 1 Reagan plan for the Middle East, 50 percent disagreed that there "should be no independent Palestinian state in the West Bank . . . and Gaza." Thirty-two percent agreed and 17 percent had no opinion. The same percentage believed that the Palestinians should have self-rule in the territories in association with Jordan, with 29 percent against and 15 percent with no opinion.

The statement appears to be high against Israel's further settlement in the West Bank: 72 percent "agreed to an immediate freeze on new Israeli settlements," with 19 percent against and nine percent having no opinion. Fifty-eight percent favor "full autonomy or self-control" for residents of the occupied territories; 26 are against. Under the Camp David accords 82 percent of the US public favors "Palestinian representation at the peace negotiations" and 13 percent oppose. The poll also found that 60 percent favor Israeli government withdrawal from the occupied territories; 26 are against.

The pollsters found that 41 to 49 percent believe that US policy is partial in the Middle East. Of the 'yes' group, 86 percent believe Israel is favored. Fifty percent said they disagreed with Israel and 42 percent agreed when questioned as to whether the war in Lebanon was justified "as a means to end rocket attacks on Israeli settlements and to remove PLO forces from Lebanon." To those who justified the invasion it was asked if they knew that there was no PLO shelling between July 1981 and June 1982. The majority: 47 to 42 percent answered 'no' and said they would not have justified the Israeli invasion if they had known that.

Further attitudes towards Israel: "most Americans did not favor disciplinary action against Israel. But when told, for example, that the "tax-exempt status of Israel Bonds" in the US makes Israel the only country in the world to receive such treatment, 69 percent agreed that this status should be revoked. Similarly with aid to Israel: 37 percent of the 44 percent who agreed that aid to Israel should continue "favour legislation reducing the amount of aid," once it became clear to them that Israel is the highest per capita receiver of US aid.

An important phenomenon which was deduced from the poll is greater support for the Palestinians from US women and Catholics. Sympathy for Palestinians among women has increaced from six percent in 1981 to 19 percent now. About Israel's invasion of Lebanon, 78 percent of American women disapproved, 12 percent approved and 10 percent did not know.

No one expects US policies to change according to the findings of this poll, but as the first scientific poll commissioned by an Arab group the results are certainly reassuring to some Palestinians and Arabs. To many Jewish leaders, however, the results are an unhappy discovery.

# OPINION

## YITZHAK NAVON: FRESH HOPE ?

by Peretz Kidron

While Israeli President Yitzhak Navon was on his recent tour of the United States, the daily **Haaretz** published a cartoon portraying a TV screen on which Navon appeared shaking hands with US President Ronald Reagan. The telecast is being watched by three men: Prime Minister Menachem Begin, and Labour leaders Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin. All three men are extremely grim-faced.

The cartoon reflects the widely-held opinion that, should Navon decide to re-enter active politics, he could pose a very real threat to each of the three personalities depicted. In immediate peril are Peres and Rabin. Labour's Tweedledee and Tweedledum — who have spent years in bitter rivalry for the party leadership — are well aware that the rank-and-file members of the party are increasingly weary of their incessant confrontations. In the event of a further leadership contest, each of the two could well face mass desertions among his supporters, with the defectors making common cause in handling the top-slot to someone else. That "someone else" may turn out to be Yitzhak Navon, who could cause both Peres and Rabin to be relegated — permanently — to the second rank.

As the cartoonist indicated, a Navon campaign could go on to claim a further victim: Prime Minister Menachem Begin. Although Begin's policies do not necessarily command a majority among the Israeli electorate, he is far and away the most popular personality in the political arena. In new elections he seems assured of a majority over his Labour opponents — as long as they are led by the unappetising figure of Peres, or the almost equally uncharismatic Rabin.

But if Navon were to head the slate, many observers believe that Labour has a better-than-even chance of regaining power. Navon must be the only man in Israel with the personal popularity which would allow him to hope for success in a toe-to-toe contest with Begin.

Many Israelis would be delighted by a train of events as depicted here.

In many ways, Prime Minister Navon would provide a welcome relief after Begin. Navon's blend of charm and dignity compares well with Begin's pompous self-importance; Navon's gentle humour is a distinct improvement on Begin's harsh sarcasm; and Navon seems to belong to this world, unlike Begin's continual sorties into some cloud-cuckooland.

Going beyond personalities, Navon possesses other traits which give him a clear advantage over the present prime minister. As a Sephardi, Navon's roots in the Middle East bring him much nearer to the peoples of the region — and indeed, to the Sephardi majority among the Jews of Israel. Unlike Begin, who does not speak a word of Arabic, Navon's dazzling linguistic gifts include a fluent command of the language, along with a broad acquaintance with Arab culture.

Moreover, Navon is a man of moral fibre — as he demonstrated by his unambiguous response to the Beirut massacres. While the Begin cabinet was still resisting calls for an inquiry, Navon flung the full weight of his authority into a public demand for a thorough investigation and punishment for the guilty.

Many Israelis look to Navon in the hope that his personal attributes might give him the insight, the understanding, and the openmindedness required for a long-overdue rehaul of official Israeli policy.

Perhaps. In the Beatles' words: "Let it be!"

But before we all succumb to Navon's charms; before we foster a hollow optimism; before we permit ourselves to be seduced by the soothing ambiguities of his statements — let us recall that the man who commenced his political career as personal assistant to David Ben Gurion is unlikely to stray far from the teachings of his mentor. During his visit to the United States, Navon carefully refrained from voicing any opinion on topics at issue between Israel's major parties. But he did choose to represent the so-called "national consensus": no withdrawal to the 1967 borders, no recognition of the PLO, and no Palestinian state.

Which is well to remember before being tempted to believe that "Navon-Navon!" is an effective and genuine response to "Begin-Begin!"

## WHY QUAKERS REFUSE TO SIGN

Teachers at Ramallah Friends School were last week called on to sign the anti-PLO oath. As they were consulting their US headquarters, the military authorities suddenly dropped the demand. The US State Department is known to have been involved in the Israeli decision. Many people here believe that once they were appraised of the Quakers' history of refusal to sign any oaths, the military reconsidered.

Here local Quakers, who asked not to be identified, explain their position.

Near the end of the Reformation, in 1652, Quakers (later also called the Religious Society of Friends) emerged as people seeking a more consistent way of living a Christian life, a way which would be closer to the leadings of God. One basic belief that united these seekers then and now is . . . "There is God in everyone. God is among us to lead us." It is each person's responsibility to bring out and respond to that spirit of God in himself. Throughout Quaker history, members have responded to this belief by working toward human dignity for all and by seeking to improve the physical and mental well-being of those afflicted by natural or man-made disasters.

This belief and thus the responsibility of Quakers is evident in their history of social reforms, education, and relief work. Prison reform programs, education for women and relief work began as early as 1690. Quaker relief work is distinguished by its effort to be impartial and to distribute help regardless of race, nationality, religion or political opinion. In the Spanish Civil War, in World War I and World War II, and in the Vietnam war, all peoples that were affected were given aid. In 1938, Rufus Jones, a prominent American Quaker, appealed to the Gestapo on behalf of the suffering Jews. The purpose of Quakers has always been to promote life and human welfare and to relieve human suffering.

The attempt to remain impartial has prevented many individuals and groups of Quakers from following the dictates of their own or other governments. In particular, Quakers have historically refused to take oaths or sign statements of allegiance. Henry J. Cadbury, co-founder of the American Friends Service Committee and grandfather of Christine Beer who is currently a volunteer teacher at Friends Girls School, is an example of a Quaker who refused to sign an oath of allegiance. Fifty years ago the teachers in the state of Massachusetts were required to sign a statement pledging to defend the Constitution of the United States. Cadbury refused to sign basing his decision on the Bibilical injunction found in James 5:12.

**"But above all, my brethen, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, that you may not fall under condemnation."**

A prominent Quaker of the 17th century, Edward Burrough, wrote the following passage which is found in **Faith and Practice**,, a book which gives guidance to all Quakers.

**"We are not for names, nor men, nor titles of government, nor are we for this party nor against the other . . . but we are for justice and mercy and truth and peace and true freedom, that these may be exalted in our nation, and that goodness, righteousness, meekness, temperance, peace and unity with God, and with one another, that these may abound."**

## SOLIDARITY WITH NAJAH

CAMPUS movement — which sees in its visit on Saturday a first step in furthering relations with the Arab university — declared that its members strictly criticise the arrests and sees in them the continuation of the oppression in the occupied territories and an annulment of basic human rights and academic freedom. A letter of solidarity with the university and the Palestinian national movement's struggle was sent by CAMPUS to Al Najah.

**Dear Friends;**

On Saturday, January 8, a delegation from the CAMPUS movement at Tel Aviv University arrived for a visit at Al-Najah National University in Nablus. On that Saturday cultural events were planned at the university, at the centre of these — a Palestinian book exhibition and some folkloric performances.

The military authorities stopped students from getting to the university that day. Because of this, the activities were cancelled. Two days later al-Najah students were arrested. The arrests were carried out because of the planned activities on Saturday, which finally took place a day later.

The student movement, CAMPUS, a democratic Arab-Jewish movement at Tel Aviv University wishes to thank you for the warm meeting you had with our members on Saturday, January 8, at al-Najah University.

CAMPUS sees this visit as a first step in creating further friendship and understanding in the common struggle against the occupation and in the effort to remove its grip on the educational institutions in the occupied territories and from the Palestinian people in general.

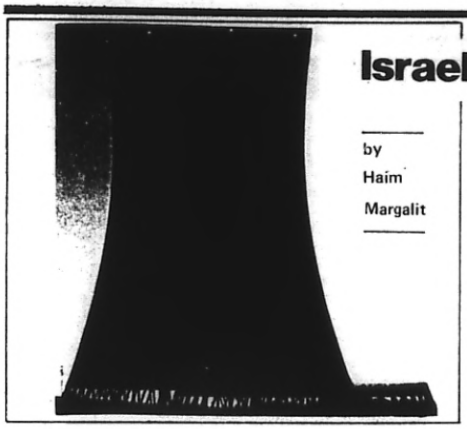
CAMPUS expresses its solidarity with your struggle against the arrests and the intrigues against your university during the last week. We are convinced of your right to be active in your university, according to all academic values.

We salute you and wish you good luck!

We would like to inform you that CAMPUS has sent a message to all daily papers in Israel, criticising the occupation authorities' injuring of your university.

**Your Friends in CAMPUS**

# Israel's Nuclear Armament Capabilities



by Haim Margalit

On December 11, 1979 the 34th session of the United Nations General Assembly decided (decision no.. 34/89) to check on Israel's nuclear deployment. The decision said, among other things, that "the General Assembly is aware of dangerous developments in the nuclear domain in Israel and the effects of developing nuclear arms in a sensitive region like the Middle East."

The General Assembly decided to empower General Secretary Kurt Waldheim, to form a research commission dealing with the issue of nuclear armaments in the state of Israel. The general secretary set up a commission of specialists, whose members were: Professor Ashur Kapur, lecturer in political science at Waterloo University, Canada; Professor Mark Krustalev, senior lecturer in international relations at the Institute for Political Sciences in Moscow; Professor Ali Mazrui, specialist in international affairs and president of the African Studies Center in Michigan University, US, president of the Institute for political sciences in Cornwall University, US; and Assad Saab, a senior engineer from Lebanon.

The UN research commission started work in July 1980 and finished it in June 1981. The commission heard testimony from specialists from many countries and presented its report to the UN general secretary on June 19, 1981 under Ali Mazrui's signature. The report summarizing the research commission's work was published in April 1982 under the title: "Study on Israeli Nuclear Armaments."

Israel's citizens are suspicious of the UN. UN people are suspicious of Israel. This high international institution is seen by us as a center of intrigue against Israel and its hostile declarations are already known. It was David Ben Gurion (Israel's' first prime minister) who said "UN the desolate" (or deserted) and in this saying he defined the way every Israeli should relate to this organisation's acts. In the UN building, Israel is seen as the strongest state in the Middle East, scornful of any decision which is not to its liking. Israel is seen as acting hastily in the organisation's institutions, presenting itself as a poor country concerned about self-defense, while it acts with an aggression lacking any inhibition. Reading the publication about nuclear armament in Israel one can explain the suspicion existing in the world towards Israel, especially when it concerns the sensitive issue of nuclear weapons. The reason for this suspicion is Israel's refusal to sign the international treaty forbidding the spread of nuclear arms. Israel has already signed the part in the treaty which prohibits nuclear experiments in the atmosphere, and this is all. Signing the whole treaty means giving UN institutions the power to check the two nuclear installations which exist in Israel (the small experimental pile in Nahal Shurak and the Dimona pile). Israel's justification was and still is its apprehension of visits by UN people, citizens of hostile countries, to the atomic piles. The reasons for Israel's suspicions are not going to be dealt with here. The authors of the report mention Yigal Alon's declarations, who said at a UN meeting (when he was Israeli minister of external affairs) that "we shall (not) be the first" to use atomic weapons, and an interview given by Ephraim Katzir, president of the state at the time, to the British newspaper, **The Guardian**, on December 3, 1974 in which he said: "We have consecrated efforts to develop nuclear power, now we have it, but we shall not be the first ones to use it."

### Israel's Nuclear Deployment

The authors of the report state that Israeli nuclear development started at the end of 1949, when a department of isotopic treatment was set up in the Weitzman Institute in Rehovot. This information was delivered by Abba Eban at the 9th UN session November 15, 1954, when he stressed that the department dealt with medical issues. Nevertheless, the authors of the report tell us that by the end of 1949 there had been attempts to extract uranium from the phosphate strata in the Negev — this information drawn from MK Michael Bar Zohar's book, **Top Secret in Suez**. At the beginning of 1953 wide range cooperation with the French High Commission for Nuclear Energy was started. The authors stress that Israeli-French cooperation in the nuclear domain was not made public. They also state that they knew about the 1957 French government decision to supply Israel with a research nuclear pile operating on natural uranium and heavy water, which was established in Dimona. The source for this information is to be found in Bertrand Goldmith's book, **The Nuclear Challenge**, which was published in 1980. In 1961 French President Charles DeGaulle declared that the Israeli-French cooperation was limited to the domain of technical knowledge.

They stated that the Dimona pilewas closedto outside visitors. In order to disperse the suspicions around the pile in Dimona, the Israeli government invited an American delegation to visit it in 1969. The impression of the visitors was that the pile in Dimona had only peaceful purposes. No visits were organized since and the UN research commission obtained no other available data about the pile.

Following an agreement signed between the Israeli government and US President Dwight Eisenhower, the US supplied a small one megawatt research reactor which was set-up in Nahal Shorek. American delegations regularly visit this site. The UN research commission dealt with the issue of uranium supply to reactors in Israel. They state that Israel buys uranium in West African countries and has its own resources, developed in the country. The source of this information is B. Goldsmith's book. Another source of information is **A Good Future for the Production of Phosphates**, an article by Z. Katzinel published in "International Atomic Technology," June 1980.

### The Nuclear Armament Ability

The members of the UN research commission came to the conclusion that the Dimona pile is able to produce annually between eight to 10 kilograms of plutonium. Therefore, from 1963 until the report was written, Israel produced 100 kilogams of plutonium. In their opinion Israel has enough plutonium to produce between 10 to 15 nuclear warheads.

With the production of enriched uranium, Israel is also able to produce "conventional" uranium bombs.

### The Conclusions of the UN Research Commission

The opinion of the members of the UN commission is that Israel has the ability to use nuclear weapons — a fact which threatens the frail stability of the Middle East, although they did not have proven evidence that Israel does have nuclear weapons. In their opinion, the UN institutions should put pressure on Israel to sign the international convention prohibiting the spread of nuclear weapons, at least in order to remove existing suspicions of Israel.

On top of all this, no Israeli organization, official or non-official, gave evidence to the commission. This fact is significant. In all the world there are voluntary organizations struggling against nuclear armament. In Israel they do not exist, and it's a pity!

**Translation: Al Hamishmar, 31, 12, 82**

# ISRAELI EXPERT CLAIMS: SETTLEMENTS NECESSARY FOR DEFENCE

If the Palestinians and the Arab states were less than content with a political settlement in the West Bank, they would be more encouraged to fight against Israel and therefore the probability of war would be higher. This could happen if the political settlement was autonomy, a partial peace arrangement or a Palestinian state headed by an extremist regime. The probability of war would be lower if the West Bank were under a Jordanian regime or a Palestinian regime. This is one of the conclusions of research by Reserve Colonel Arie Shalev published by the Centre for Strategic Research at Tel Aviv University.

Another conclusion drawn from the study is that there is no need to annex the West Bank to Israel as it is possible to deal with the security dangers threatening Israel by positioning Israeli troops (there) during a transitional period which could continue for a few decades.

The research is published in the form of a book **(Defence Lines in Judea and Samaria)** under the auspices of the Centre for Strategic Research in which Reserve Colonel Arie Shalev serves as deputy president. The study analyses security aspects in the West Bank and its starting point is that in the future an agreement will be reached between the parties concerning a political solution in the region.

In analyzing the different threats Shalev says, among others, that in the case of a surprise attack by the Syrians and the Jordanians, as an Iraqi expeditionary force moved westwards, the Israeli army would only be able to use the regular units in the area at that moment and these would have to face four to five Jordanian divisions plus seven Syrian divisions. Syria and Jordan's numerical superiority during the first 48 hours of fighting would be six to one and they would use it to advance on the ground.

In the case of the demilitarization of the area, the Israeli army would be able to send regular forces to the West Bank only after the attack was started. Shalev's conclusion in a surprise attack by Syria and Jordan, — even if their forces were not placed in advance on the West Bank — helped by an Iraqi expeditionary force, is that they would gain control of a large part of the West Bank on the first night and threaten Israel to the west of the green line. The author concludes that the solution of demilitarization in the West Bank also represents a major danger for Israel.

In order to limit the security dangers, a solution is proposed, based on security arrangements for a transitional period during which the Israeli army would control intelligence alarm devices placed in the West Bank and also a radar station for the air force. In addition the Israeli army should be allowed to keep a number of ground-to-air missile batteries on the eastern slopes of 'the Bank' and its fighter planes should be permitted to patrol above the West Bank. On the ground the Israeli army would be allowed to keep two armoured or mechanized units. This security arrangement will, in Shalev's opinion, enable the Israeli army to delay a military attack and in the meantime to mobilize reserve troups. In the framework of this arrangement, Israeli air defences would start from the Jordan river.

Concerning the importance of the Jewish settlements in the West Bank, Shalev says in his study that these settlements do have a weight in the defence disposition, taking into account the special conditions of the West Bank. The settlers in the Jordan Valley could be integrated into the frontal defence system, even in the case of a surprise attack from Jordan, as reinforcements for the regular military forces before the mobilization of the reserve units.

As the settlements are small, their contribution in the war will be limited, but if they are enlarged they could turn into a security asset. Shalev says about settlements on hill tops and on mountain slopes that their location near the traffic lines would give them a certain military importance during the first stages of an attack initiated by the Arabs because they could help to guard the roads in order to enable the despatch of Israeli forces to the eastern parts of the West Bank.

**Translation: Haaretz, 28, 12, 82**

# TOURISM IN THE 'HOLY LAND': "BUSINESS IS VERY BAD"

by Jamal Najjab

Tourism within Israel and the occupied territories has taken a rather uneven course since the days after the October war of 1973. However, as the years passed the peaks have turned into plateaus and the valleys have cut deeper, with, as is typical in other economic spheres, the occupied territories' businesses taking the brunt of the pressure.

In January 1978, Dr. Moshe Mandelbaum, director of the Israeli ministry of industry, trade and tourism, predicted there would be two million tourists annually by 1982. This could be achieved, he said, if everyone in their businesses, hotels, tourist agencies and on down would "stop complaining and pull together." Mandelbaum's expectations were printed in Israeli newspapers, magazines and other periodicals, but had little effect on those in business who wanted to stay in business. They immediately redoubled complaining that the authorities were not doing enough. They were perturbed that Israel did not even have a separate ministry of tourism and that their problems were indirectly dealt with by a ministry which was also concerned with trade and industry.

Israeli Hotel Association members were insulted that they and their partners in tourism were not treated with more respect, especially as their branch was the greatest foreign currency earner of all in the ministry. Although they were given tax exemptions and incentives, they felt such an important money-making institution as tourism should be better handled or at least treated on the same level as the other departments. For example, they could not understand why they were not allowed a disaster fund as the ministry of agriculture had for farmers when there was a drought. They felt they were just as important as farmers, if not more.

Business did pick up between 1980 and 1981. More tourists arrived, business was going full-swing, everyone worked hard and the hotels and travel agents were content. Israel's and the West Bank's rise in tourism was not brought about because of government intervention, but because, as Hani Abu Dayyeh, co-owner of NET Tours, stated, "why not? The dollar bought more, the economy was healthy and there was no war." In 1981, tourism to the country grossed US $95 million and 1,137,000 visitors from abroad passed through the borders of Israel and the West Bank. Opportunistic talk began again; many saw Dr. Mandelbaum's prediction of two million tourists in 1982 as a possibility.

When Israeli government intervention did come, it was in the form of the Lebanon war — not the best advertisement for any country. Economic factors deepened the depression. Israeli government statistics show that only 300,000 tourists traveled to Israel and the occupied territories in the first 11 months of 1982, a far cry from two million. "This past Christmas was the worst we've had since 1950," Abu Dayyeh stated. His NET Tours has been in business for 35 years. A few individuals continued to blame the government's "passive attitude" toward the situation, but all Palestinian tourist agents interviewed and most of their Israeli counterparts agreed that one or a combination of three factors caused the decline in foreign visitors: world recession had affected the business internationally, Israeli one-way closure of the Allenby Bridge between Jordan and the West Bank destroyed budget tourism from the US, but over and above everything, the assault on Lebanon claimed tourism as another of its victims.

Nowhere was this past year's tourist depression felt more than in the West Bank — which essentially means East Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Tourism is important to the West Bank; to those towns it is vital. Elias Tahan, co-owner and co-manager of the East Jerusalem Rivoli Hotel says, "This is tourist country. Seventy-five percent of the people employed locally are directly involved in some aspect of tourism and 20 percent work indirectly. "For example, when I go to have my shoes shined, the guy will ask me 'how's business?' He knows that if business is good the taxi drivers will get their shoes shined," Abu Dayyeh said.

"East Jerusalem and the surrounding area has relied on tourism for the past 50 years," Tahan stated. The area has no factories or other industries (with the exception of the olive wood factories whose products are usually sold to tourists) to balance the situation. "Tourism is the only thing," Abu Dayyeh said.

This summer there's been no discussion at the shoe-shine operations. There's only one answer to the question: "How's business?": "Business is very bad." "I'd be surprised if I got one half of the business I got last year," Abu Dayyeh stated. "You know usually during the Christmas holiday I sit in the morning by the hotel window, drinking coffee and watching the people walk down the street," Tahan said. "It is interesting to see the different types of people who are visiting Jerusalem. But this year they just weren't there."

Old City souvenir shop owner waiting for customers/JAM

One East Jerusalem travel agent stated, "The community has always been close and the current situation has pulled us even closer. All are well aware of how the others are holding up under the present conditions. Rivoli Hotel only has two guests, the National Palace 14 and the Strand and Regent zero." Every one feels the pinch: the small sandwich shops are not selling as many **shawarma** and the poor shoe shine boy is nowhere to be found.

### Tourist Profile

Almost everyone in the East Jerusalem area who caters to people from abroad will tell you there are three types of visitors to this part of the world. First, there is what is known as the "professional tourist" — a journalist, member of a congress, convention or fund-raising outfit. They neither require the services of East Jerusalem tour agenices nor stay in East Jerusalem where the Palestinian-owned hotels are located. "One must understand a high percentage of these people are Jewish," Tahan said, "so it's understandable that they make connections through West Jerusalem travel agents and they feel safer in West Jerusalem hotels."

The second category are the pilgrims who mostly come from North America and Europe and are usually in an economically organised tour because, more often than not, they are working class. They have scrimped and saved through the years for this trip of spiritual fulfillment and want to experience as much as possible for their hard-earned money. They want to see as much of the holy land as can be squeezed into a seven to 14 day package deal. These persons are the main source of income to the East Jerusalem and Bethlehem tourist infrastructure.

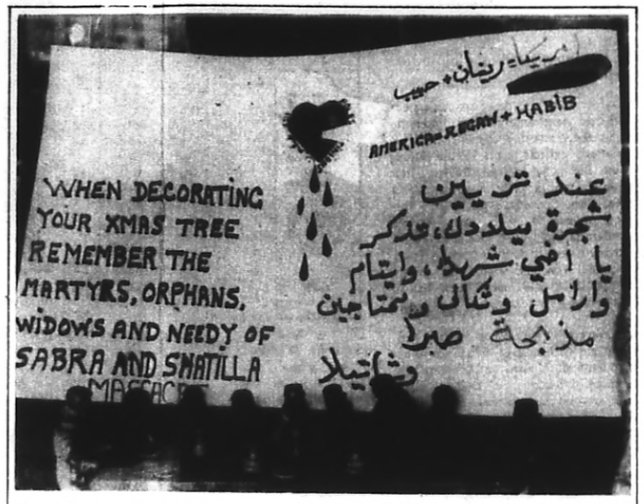
Third, come those simply called "the tourist." "Before 1967, tourists to the holy land came at seasons such as Christmas, Easter and summer," Tahan stated. "However, after 1967 the average age of the tourist was younger." Since 1974, the Israeli government has actively encouraged the image of Israel as a huge sun resort to attract those who adore the concentrated warmth of the sun and the romantic pleasure of the sea. With the exception of a few posters, the holy land sites have been left out.

"The holy land doesn't need promotion — it's there," Abu Dayyeh said. "Pilgrims have been coming for the past 2000 years. But now people just don't want to come to the holy land."

Many here feel the financial recession that has affected the world of tourism in general has especially hit the holy land. "There is a drop in tourism all over the world, but not to the extent there is here," Abu Dayyeh said. Israeli and West Bank tourism has been conducting business in US dollars since 1972 when the Israeli lira (IS0.1) proved too unstable. Since then, the dollar has become a welcome sight within the East Jerusalem area in relation to the ever-shrinking Israeli currency. Many souvenir shops, restaurants and hotels display their wares and services in US money. Therefore, it is not very difficult to understand with the low buying power of the dollar why "business is very bad." "The devaluation of the dollar makes Israel expensive," Abu Dayyeh stated. "Many people stayed home because it's cheaper in the States and Europe." Abu Dayyeh went on to say that many Europeans stayed home and went to places nearer, like Spain. "If someone from Italy makes a reservation to come here a year in advance and pays an IL 1000 lira deposit — when it comes time for him to travel, because the economy is so bad and the dollar is dropping, he finds he has to pay 10 percent more. This means he has no spending money or worse, he simply does not have the money because he is unemployed."

### Welcome To...

Every country except Israel has defined boundaries surrounding its territory. Here there are none. Some tourists to "Israel" come across the Jordan River and via the occupied West Bank. Bridges are stretched across its banks for supposedly easy access back and forth. That was before 1967. Then, war made the bridges the new front line and since, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians find crossing can take more than five hours, while the Israeli authorities examine them and anything they are transporting.


AMERICA-AMERICAN + HABIB
WHEN DECORATING YOUR XMAS TREE REMEMBER THE MARTYRS, ORPHANS, WIDOWS AND NEEDY OF SABRA AND SHATILLA

Poster placed in the window of Farah Tarazi's souvenir shop is East Jerusalem/SF

Not everyone has to be exposed to this depressing ordeal. If they possess the proper credentials to be labelled one of the three types of tourists to the holy land then they are requested to cross the river via the Allenby Bridge, near Jericho. Once across, the visitor's first tourist site in the sacred land of "Judea and Samaria" is an air-conditioned building complete with brightly-coloured accomodating features such as cafeteria, post office and rest rooms. Here an Israeli soldier well-versed in the English language greet those passing through with remarks that seem strange for such tough-looking warriors: 'Thank you,' 'At your service,' 'Sorry for the trouble,' and one which appears to be mandatory: 'Welcome to Israel.'

The building is located to the far-right of the entry complex, almost out of sight and sound of the huge warehouse-like structure where the 'non-tourist' — barefooted or sock-footed Palestinians are horded through the maze of ramps and railings while their shoes and other belongings are X-rayed. Most tourists do not notice because they are speedily processed, usually within 20 minutes.

In October, 1981 Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin enacted a law that allowed tourists to cross the Jordan river (Allenby bridge border) only one way. He did so at the request of then Industry, Trade and Tourism Minister Gidon Patt, who had received several complaints from the now defunct El Al airlines that Jordan's national airlines, Alia, had been acting "unfairly" — offering cheap package tours of the holy land via Amman to American and European tourists.

These package deals usually included a round-trip ticket with Alia from the tour group's home country to Amman, tour and hotel accommodations in Jordan, the West Bank and Israel. El Al claimed Alia's package deal was unfair "because Alia is subsidized by Saudi Arabia with cheap fuel."

"The reason they closed the bridge is because Alia had a special rate which El Al couldn't match and it's as simple as that," Naim Tarazi, co-owner of Universal Tours in East Jerusalem stated. "The Israeli government closed the bridge to force those coming via Amman to leave from Lydda airport, hopefully on El Al planes."

The possibility of fewer incoming tourists because of the bridge closure concerned not only the East Jerusalem tourism network, but a great part of the West Jerusalem network as well. The IHA was the loudest in its official complaints and demanded the law be revoked. Alia's holy land tours were, in fact, advantageous to their members. The tourists, most of them pilgrims, would stay an average 1.5 nights in Jordan and five nights in Israel. The association admitted that a majority of the pilgrims crossing the bridge did stay in East Jerusalem hotels, but these establishments are also members of the association and helped shore-up Israel's economy by attracting much-needed foreign currency.

The one-way restriction did nothing to remedy El Al's desperate situation. It did result, apparently, in a large decline in visitors. **The Jerusalem Post** reported in 1981 an annual average of 50,000-60,000 tourists, mostly pilgrims, crossing the bridge to Israel during the '70s. Government statistics showed in November 1980 that 4700 tourists entered Israel across the river that year. A year later this figure had fallen to 3500.

**The Jerusalem Post** noted that these pilgrims were mainly retired and blue-collar workers from the US southern 'Bible belt.' On low-incomes, cancellation of economical round-trip tickets and an addition of as much as US $300 for the flight cost from Lydda airport to home was causing many of them to abandon their travel plans.

Some tour agents still booked on Alia. The tour groups landed in Amman, crossed the bridge into Jerusalem, then left by bus to Cairo where they caught an Alia flight home. Alia was reportedly footing the Jerusalem-Cairo bus cost.

By the beginning of summer 1982, IHA was more insistent that restrictions be abolished. Finally in November, after El Al was closed down and tourism was in dire straits, the order was lifted.

During the "bridge affair' East Jerusalem hotels and tourist agencies were the hardest hit. Most hotel rooms were unoccupied. "Guides leading groups crossing the bridge are usually clergymen who have visited the holy land in the past and most are pro-Arab," said Tarazi. Ninety percent of these tour leaders book their tours into East Jerusalem Arab-owned hotels, Tarazi added.

But other travel agents see the affair as a minor factor in the slump. "We didn't notice much difference because tourism was so low anyway," Naser Husseini, assistant manager of the Regent Hotel said. "The affects were minimal."

During the first half of 1982, according to **The Jerusalem Post**, there was a 10 percent drop in tourism to Israel. IHA was redrafting its demands for action, when the Israelis pushed into Lebanon to begin their blitz. On the first day of the war, news arrived that all large-scale reservations for trips to Israel had been cancelled.

"Since the war, tourism has come to a standstill," Tahan said. The extensive media coverage of the Israeli bombing of Beirut throughout the world seemed to intensify the problem. "A little old lady in the States who is planning to visit the holy land opens the TV to CBS (US national network) and all she hears is news about the war in Lebanon," Abu Dayyeh commented. "She turns to ABC and all they talk about is the war. She finally turns to the Christian station and gets more of the same. The woman is frightened to hell. She says, 'Well, it doesn't look too safe. I'll go next year.' " Commented Tahan: "They don't understand that Beirut is hundreds of miles away."

The world was horrified by the news of the massacre at Sabra and Shatila and tourism to Israel suffered even further. "I had 124 cancellations in the last three months, which is three times the normal," Abu Dayyeh told **Al Fajr.**

"Many European airlines have stopped their charter flights to Israel because their governments want to put political pressure on Israel, or they just don't have reservations." Ramona Rizha, reservation manager of NET Tours, stated. One East Jerusalem tourist agent, who asked to remain anonymous, reported that soon after the massacre, he received a telex from a fellow travel agent in Europe which read, "I will not encourage tours to a country whose hands are covered in blood."

Farah Tarazi, souvenir shop owner, who placed a large sign in his display window: "When decorating your Xmas tree, remember the martyrs, orphans, widows and needy of the Sabra and Shatila massacre," believes that Israel's actions in Lebanon are the main reason for the tourist slowdown. "Many who came here to encourage support for Israel are not coming now," he claims. The Israeli government seemed to sense a lack of support and started a campaign to encourage Jews and "the true Christian friends of Israel" from abroad to come and show solidarity.

"The future doesn't look very bright," Tahan stated. "We are forced to keep our rates very low to attract tourists but still we don't have any! We also started accepting any foreign currency at face value. The situation is so bad that we are offering a room and half board (two meals) for US $12 a night to tour groups," Husseini said. "If things were better, they'd have to pay US $30."

Despite the drastic rate reductions, it seems tourists are still going elsewhere. And elsewhere is up the hill. A few of the West Jerusalem four and five star hotels are offering their luxurious rooms at almost the same price as the two and three star hotels of East Jerusalem. "Now, you go into the Jerusalem Hilton and you notice that the people staying there are not the typical five star guests," observed Muawiya Abdeen, former night manager of the Meridian Hotel, laid-off because of lack of business at that hotel. And he predicts, "if these big hotels keep competing like this, then the days of the two or three star hotels may be coming to an end."

Occupation has taken its toll on tourism/JAM

WHAT BEGIN AND REAGAN DIDN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW

# The Mossad: Israel's Intelligence Service

**This is the third part of a 10-part series on the Israeli intelligence network, adapted and excerpted from CIA and US State Department documents revealed in CounterSpy magazine. This week's selection focusses on the functions and administrative practices of Mossad – the foreign intelligence branch. Next week: Mossad's methods of operation.**

## 1. Functions

Mossad is responsible for foreign intelligence collection, political action and counterterrorism. In carrying out its mission to collect positive intelligence, the principal function of Mossad is to conduct agent operations against the Arab nations and their official representatives and installations throughout the world, particularly in Western Europe and the United States. Where the national interests of the Arabs in the Near East conflict with Israeli interests, Mossad collects information on the disposition, morale, armaments, equipment and state of leadership of every Arab army that could be called into action in the case of another round of fighting; and all the information that illuminates Arab internal politics and relationships among the principal Arab leaders and the diplomatic activity of all countries in the Arab world. Mossad monitors Arab commercial activity, particularly in the field of arms purchases in the West, and attempts to counteract Arab recruiting of military, economic and political experts. In this case the principal desire is to recruit these persons as intelligence agents, or failing that, either to dissuade them from aiding the Arabs or to discover their precise functions. Mossad also is charged with inciting disturbances calculated to create mutual distrust among the Arabs and to draw Western sympathy away from the Arab cause, and monitoring and counteracting Arab propaganda and detecting and countering Arab terrorism. In the area of counterterrorism, at times the Israelis have carried the fight to Arab terrorists by taking executive action against them, especially in parts of the Near East and Western Europe.

In addition to running operations against the Arabs, Mossad collects political, economic and scientific intelligence in both the Eastern and Western worlds for the protection of the state of Israel, Zionism and Jews generally. Their collection efforts are especially concentrated in the Soviet Union and the United States, as well as at the United Nations, where policy decisions could have repercussions on Israeli and Zionist goals.

Intelligence objectives in the USSR and East Europe consist of determining governmental policy toward Israel and the problem of Jewish emigration, recruiting persons strategically located in Soviet and East European bureaucracies who, motivated either by conviction or corruption, are willing to assist Zionist action in those countries, and ascertaining the degree and quality of assistance made available to Near Eastern groups, whether in Israel or the Arab nations, by Soviet and East European governments.

Objectives in Western countries are equally important to the Israeli intelligence service. Mossad collects intelligence regarding Western, Vatican, and UN policies toward the Near East, promotes arms deals for the benefit of the IDF, and acquires data for use in silencing anti-Israel factions in the West.

## 2. Organization

Mossad has eight departments (1) Operational Planning and Coordination; (2) Collection; (3) Political Action and Liaison; (4) Manpower, Finance, Logistics and Security; (5) Training; (6) Research; (7) Technical Operations; and (8) Technology.

The Operational Planning and Coordination Department is concerned with the management of Mossad resources and responsible for interdirec[tional] and administrative coordination with the organisation and interservice liaison within the Israeli intelligence and security community. This department also deals with requiremen[ts] and the development of overall collection plans.

The Collection Department is responsible for foreign covert operations and the processing and production of reporting from clandestine sources. This component is the largest unit in Mossad. The department has offices abroad under Israeli diplomatic and nonofficial cover and is active mainly in Europe, where it concentrates on Arab targets through third-country operations.

The Political Action and Liaison Directorate is in charge of political action and relations with friendly foreign services. This component also maintains contact with those nations and political groups with whom Israel does not have normal diplomatic relations (that is, African countries, Lebanon and/or Lebanese Christian rightist factions and Indonesia).

There is also a Psychological Warfare or Special Operations Division, probably in the Political Action and Liaison Directorate, which runs highly sensitive covert action operations against Arab terrorists and ex-Nazis, and sabotage, paramilitary and psychological warfare projects, such as character assassination and negative propaganda.

Positive intelligence and counterintelligence reports are sent back to Mossad headquarters in Tel Aviv, evaluated by the Research Department, and disseminated to various government offices. Intelligence reports on the Arabs are forwarded by Mossad to the Research Department of the DMI while counterespionage reports are sent through Mossad to Shin Bet, where they are given special processing by counterintelligence investigative departments.

Mossad controls Israeli foreign intelligence activities except for operations launched from Israel against military objectives in peripheral areas of surrounding Arab countries, which are under the jurisdiction of DMI. Mossad operations abroad fall into two principal categories: those in the Near East, as a first line of defense, and those elsewhere. The Israelis have designated Egypt as the main target area for establishing intelligence networks. In 1970 the Israelis estimated that about 50 percent of their operational effort was directed against Egypt. The next priority is Syria. Much of this activity against the Arabs in the Near East is based on deep cover operations by Israeli illegals or the recruitment of Arabs in third countries followed by their dispatch or normal rotation back home to an Arab area.

### Eliahu Ben Shaul Cohen

Eliahu Ben Shaul Cohen was an Egyptian-born Jew who was involved in Israeli sabotage operations against American and British installations in Egypt in 1952. Cohen succeeded in escaping detection, when most members of the ring were arrested by the Egyptians, and went to Israel. Eventually, Mossad recruited Cohen for an illegal operation designed to develop intelligence networks and acquire political and military information in Syria. He received intensive training, adopted the identity of the late Kamil Amin Thabet, a Syrian-born merchant, and emigrated to Argentina, where he became an active member of the Arab emigre community. Cohen eventually went to Syria, where he was assisted by two Arabs who had previously been recruited by the Israelis. From 1961 until 1965, the Syrians detected and located Cohen while he was in the act of transmitting information to Tel Aviv. One cause of his downfall was that he was using hand morse radio equipment and had been on the air for an hour when he was caught. A Syrian court tried Cohen and found him guilty of espionage. He was publicly hanged in Damascus in May 1965.

Mossad stations outside of the Arab areas in the Near East are generally under diplomatic cover within the embassies and consulates of Israel. There are stations in the United States, most of the European capitals, Turkey, Iran and strategic centers in Latin America, Africa and the Far East. Operations range from formal liaison exchanges with host services through unilateral projects to special executive actions directed against Arab terrorists. There are also smaller stations, which run mostly unilateral operations and handle local liaison on such matters as Arab terrorists.

The Collection Directorate and the Political Action and Liaison Directorate are separate components of Mossad and are carefully compartmented at headquarters. Collection and Political Action and Liaison maintain separate permanent staffs outside Israel in larger stations. There are thus either two Mossad stations or two compartmented components in each station in some countries – one for unilateral clandestine collection and one for liaison. For example, at present in Paris the Israelis have an Embassy, Consulate-General and Ministry of Defense mission. Under embassy cover, Mossad has a Collection Directorate regional controller and a Political Action and Liaison Directorate regional controller in the French capital, which has more or less over the years remained the fulcrum of Israeli intelligence activity on the continent of Europe.

In Spain, on the other hand, there is no known official or semiofficial Israeli installation. There have been contacts between Political Action and Liaison Directorate officials of Mossad and the Spanish service for some time. The original meeting apparently occurred in Paris in the late 1960s. Since then there have been contacts in Madrid and Paris. There is a possibility that Mossad may also have a clandestine Collection Department station in Spain. In January 1973, Baruch Asher Cohen, a Mossad officer, was assassinated in Madrid by Arabs.

Special operations are mounted on an **ad hoc** basis. Headquarters directs the effort from Israel and employs Mossad officers and agents on special temporary duty. In July 1973, an Israeli assassination squad of 16 was involved in the murder of a Moroccan Arab in Lillehammer, Norway. Norwegian authorities captured, tried and imprisoned six of the group, the rest escaped. It became clear in the course of the trial that the squad, which was composed of Israelis, who were Mossad officers, and European Jews, who were recruited for the mission, did much of its preparatory work in Paris and entered Norway on a specific assignment – the elimination of Arab terrorists. After the murder, two of the squad sought refuge with an Israeli Embassy security officer. The Norwegians declared the officer **persona non grata**, although he apparently was not privy to the operation.

## 3. Administrative practices

The Israeli Prime Minister appoints the Director of Mossad. The Prime Minister does not need the approval of the cabinet or the Knesset for this appointment.

a. TRAINING – The Mossad training cycle encompasses a Basic Operations course for recruits and lower ranking personnel, and Operations course and a Field Operations course. All new officer candidates are required to take the four-month Basic Operations course before actually entering on duty. The entire training cycle takes almost two years and is generally given to classes of 12. Most of the training takes place in the Tel Aviv area.

The three services run a joint advanced school in Jerusalem that offers specialised courses of two to three months' duration on world political affairs, Israel's political and economic objectives, new technical operational aids, and the latest information on foreign intelligence services. All officers who are midway in their careers are required to attend this advanced school upon their return from a foreign assignment.

Some younger Mossad officers, who may be weak in certain fields of higher education or languages, are sent to universities abroad, where their pursuit of an advanced degree simultaneously serves as cover for their extracurricular operational activities. One of the established goals of the intelligence and security services is that each officer be fluent in Arabic. A nine-month, intensive Arabic language course is given annually in the Tel Aviv area to students from each service.

As further training, these Mossad officers work in the (Occupied-ed) Territories for two years to sharpen their language skills before being posted abroad. During this period they usually serve in the Sinai and often run Beduin agents into Egypt in conjunction with Military Intelligence.

All Mossad officers are trained in the use of small arms and required to fire them at regular intervals.

# Palestine and Literature

## The Red Wind

A Short Story
by Zaki al-'Aileh

The face of the king was frowning — a patch of night filled with gloom, no names . . . no people . . . no roads . . . no sky . . . no moons that pierce the oblivion of the careless sea about his orders with words.

"For the last time I ask you — come crawling on your belly, like a pallid rat with faded eyes and cut-tongue."

. . . A rough echo . . . the rapiers cut the ears of the retinue, guards and secret agents. An overwhelming silence suddenly prevails through the world.

### A news item:

The sea was a sun-spot. Around its edges, the young boys, hunters, porters and cripples assembled waiting for the season of fishes, shells and red wind.*

The king waved his fist in vexation. The malignant smell of the gallows and dungeons rose from his breath.

He said, there are those living in my kingdom, under my sky, those who disobey me and refuse to carry out my orders and my secrets that echo in all ears." Silence. Emaciation. The master of the guards shivered in fear. A spot of foam was unexpectedly taken away by the shower of rain.

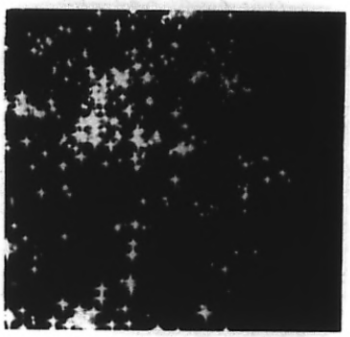
Mechanically they answered, "We are at your disposal, at your beck and call, oh master."

The sharp whip of our master lashed the air. The royal telex and radio stations transmitted his speech: "This is a blatant, political, disobedient revolt aimed at harming the security of innocent civilians and sweeping the awesome dominion of the state. It is wreckage. This disobedient rat must be severely punished and every sympathising inciter should be struck with an iron fist."

The chief of staff mumbles and smacks his lips: "Every deviant and evil-doer will receive just punishment for his crimes and sins."

### Confessions**

"We admit and confess that the strong bond between us and the sea cannot be denied or avoided, whatever changes or capricious alternations of time have occurred. The sea is our clothing if clothing is



needed, our food if it is needed. On this we admit and confess."

Signed — unidentified fish-hunters.

(News agencies did not report their names)

"We declare publicly that our relation to the sea is like the relation between a newborn infant and its mother. Its waters gush through our pores. On this it is impossible to bargain or to exchange with present and coming initiatives."

Signed — the crippled and deformed.

"They flow constantly against the ages of negation and times of confiscation and murder. Bandages sail. Seasons dress a mistaken memory. A map of no likeness rises from my blood — yours, the martyrs', the lovers', and all defenders of land.

Signed — the confession of a writer, acting guardian for all banned boys."

### Rituals, high royal decrees***

"The sea must be cleaned of all fish by using various kinds of drugs and poisonous chemical weapons, so that no deviant would even think of approaching the sea after today.

"To stop the spread of plague coming from the untreated sea water carried by some disobedient cripples and lepers, we order the common people to drain the sea and commission them to establish a string of royal castles and settlement centres on the dried area.

"All kinds of seaweed, seashells, pearl oysters must be destroyed to stop boys from wasting their time or indulging in fun."

The king sank into his luxurious couch scrutinizing reports and commissions offered to him. Black hooked-bill birds shrieked and hovered around his head. Some clashed and collided. He shivered with fear. Dampness touched his foot. Creeping humidity, frost grew. The papers scatter. A swift wind — breaks, smashing the doors. Cries for help. Screams come from the rooms and courtyards of the castle. The king shouts. No echo. No answers. No response. No reverberation. He looks for his whip — the sweat streams from all parts of his body. The water covers his couch, red flowing water, ropes surround his neck. He shivers. A pallid cut-tongue rat — wined, dust, ashes in his mouth. His sight arches. The walls bow, a broken night conveying terror and gloominess.

### A Supplement

They constantly flow. A sunny spot inhabited by fish hunters, porters, boys and cripples from all quarters and places. They cross the possible and impossible to reach the sea. They store the sea in their veins. They pour the waves and prepare the red, red wind.

### Footnotes:

* Some scholars attribute these events to the age before the first flood. This is unacceptable premonition because there are no signs or evidence which define the era of poisonous medicaments, cells and settlement centres.

** They were discovered and their symbols engraved by fingernails and sharp instruments. One of these sharp instruments is a chain of fetters which was discovered hung on a wall of what is believed to be part of a big prison.

*** The decrees were discovered among the royal files dealing with criminals. They were discovered after great effort by scholars of the last flood.

## The Most Charitable Gift

by Samih Faraj

I doze through the pain
I grow up through the pain
I tower up over the pain
I awake
each vine grabs its old position
on my chest
I awake
Crime gains a victory
It is an ephemeral victory
It is an ephemeral sleep
It is an ephemeral pain
I awake through the pain
Death is the fruit of life
They said: breathe
I said: violence or land
They said: breathe without a nose
without a mouth
I said: violence is the start of the end
death is the fruit of life
I take a nap . . .
I awake . . . and awake . . .
and awake
The gate of dawn is approaching
and you will see the lover's face
It passes over me
50,000 of the locusts' reserves
I test the watery grief in the gulf
homeland
I fear gliding
to slip over positions and
stupid signatures,
I plant the wheat of morning
over the coffins of evening
I slit my chest, to become a thousand
or thousands of old myths
It passes over me
70,000 of the locusts reserves
my poetry clamours with accounts,
gallows and flowers
The sun, like seeds, grows from arms
and soil
I awake at the dawn, Oh . . .
you see the lover's face
It passes over me
90,000 of the locusts reserves
the thousands of passers-by are incentives
for the branch to grow
for the plow
for the children
for loading . . . unloading
for the quick lightning
over trenches and mountains
50,000
or 70,000
or 90,000, mother, smile
hug with your arms the cloud
50,000, 70,000 or 1,000,000
Numbers fell without accounting
my head overlooks the roofs of night
and hails:
Oh, mother where is the bride's henna?
It is a wedding
over a skull . . . another . . . another
over . . . oh, the wreaths of flowers
al-Quds, not frightened, is transcending
from the veins' cudgels towards the brides' crowns
then it chooses the candles
transcending without face
and ribs
It is stopped before check-posts
where is the mildness in
your cheeks?
where is the charm . . . the mountains?
al-Quds penetrates deeply into truth
into banners
tempests
al-Quds is transcending . . . no hell and
no retreat
al-Quds is ascending to heaven
you are the most beautiful
the most precious
the remains and everlasting
these, my veins, are streets
or scalpels
or chains of optimism
accept them
let sun walk through them
these, my veins, are poems
or windows
you rise from it to them
rock transforms into sand

or flowers
sand into bread or pure water
stop marksmen before my windows
these, my veins, are stoves
light the wood of stoves
to make warmth a colour for
mausoleums
They said: slow
I said: the most charitable gift
is the quickest.

Al Bayader No. 5
January 1981

# WINDOW ON THE ARAB PRESS

The visit by PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat to the Soviet capital and the final communique issued at the end of the Palestinian-Soviet talks received major coverage in the local Palestinian papers.

The slow-moving Lebanese-Israeli talks received prominent coverage in **Al Quds**, while **Al Fajr** and **Al Shaab** gave their top spots to the Israeli military government crack-down on the West Bank's educational institutions and the Israeli decision to set up another five settlements in the Hebron area.

## A BASIC LESSON

After the failure of the Reagan plan, and its right-wing Arab supporters to convince the Palestinian and Arab people to accept it, they have resorted to using the "bogey" of time and the claim of what it might do, to justify the deprivation of the Palestinian people of its right to establish an independent state.

In the right-wing Arabs' shameful attempt to embelish the US plan, they have begun to talk of the American promise to shorten the period of autonomy. They think that the Arab people listen to them alone and not to what the other side says about extending the "negotiations" for many years.

They say that Reagan will be busy in March with presidential elections and will have no time afterwards to concern himself with the Middle East. This means that they are ready to accept anything under pressure of the time factor.

It is the utmost humiliation for the self-determination of a people to depend on the "time" of a head of state who is a lifelong enemy of the Palestinian people. It is of the utmost stupidity to suppose that the other side, Israel, cannot use the "time" factor for its own interests and can postpone the subject until after March.

We say this to show the stupidity of this supposition. Those who believe it and who pin their hopes on the pre-March period should remember that their acceptance of the American terms does not mean Israeli acceptance of them. The issue calls for negotiations with Israel and depends on what happens after March, after Reagan is busy and after their supplications!

This reveals the vulnerability of those who depend on American solutions, if one ignores more exact and clear expressions. It puts to shame the nature of official Jordanian solidarity with the PLO and the Palestinian people.

When the Jordanian rulers put March as the determining limit between the losing or the gaining of rights, and lay all their cards on the time which Reagan can give them, they declare, indirectly, the emptiness of their hand in any other means of forcing Reagan to concern himself with the issue, in the same way that Eisenhower, in 1956, was forced to become involved, despite the British campaign.

At that time, Abd al-Nasser had the steadfastness of the Egyptian people, the solidarity of the Arab people, Soviet friendship and Soviet warnings to its enemies. Such a balance still exists, stronger than before and is in the reach of those who want to walk along the path to freedom and not along that of submission.

AL TALIA
January 13

## TIME INCREASES RESISTANCE

The combined Palestinian-Soviet declaration issued at the end of the talks between Yasir Arafat and Yuri Andropov strongly condemned the American plans for a Middle East peace solution without achieving the national rights of the Palestinian people.

This position, which reflects the strength of Palestinian-Soviet relations is important in reminding the Arab states of the basic issue — the necessity of returning the dialogue on Arab issues to its rightful international arena instead of keeping it within the framework of the US plan.

Leaving these issues in American hands . . . . . .can only cause the Arabs the utmost harm, because the US is neither a fair judge nor a neutral mediator.

Will the Arabs learn the lesson?

AL SHAAB
January 14, 1983

## IMPOTENCE WORSE THAN SURRENDER

Is it true that the resources of the Arab nation have become limited to the point of being the least of all evils? In reality it seems so, to judge by the Arab states who have raised the flag of surrender and have clearly given in, despite the vast number of Arabs (over 160 million), despite vast economic power, despite their strategic position between continents and despite their rich heritage of power and culture.

This is what has been happening in the Arab world. There are 1001 proofs of treachery and impotence in the face of challenges. Giving in to impotence is worse than impotence itself, which is no crime in itself. The real crime is in accepting impotence and giving in to it as inescapable and unavoidable.

Arab cultural, material and human potential is unlimited and solid. Our Arab people have the right, instead of limiting themselves behind their rulers in the lesser of all evils, to destroy the power centre and open wide horizons for true Arab potential and emerge from the empty circles in which they have been revolving for years.

The first of these points must be democracy, because it is the key to power . . . After this we picture, as an example of powerful Arab unity, the use of oil and Arab wealth threatening US interests in the region, followed by the intellectual and political liberation of the Arab people . . . etc . . .

AL MITHAQ
January 15

## U.S. BENEFITS FROM LEBANON WAR

Some Arab capitals are witnessing a Lebanese-Syrian move to persuade those Arab countries which have "normal relations" with Washington to "pressure" the US administration to, in turn, "pressure" Israel to withdraw from Lebanon. Meanwhile envoys of Arab countries with normal relations with Washington move in a seemingly opposite direction, as though the attempt to prevent talks (ie Arab, Syrian and Palestinian stubbornness) could delay talks on an agreement on Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

This Arab movement follows the Lebanese-Israeli agreement on a working agenda, reached with US "pressure." This gives the impression that US "pressure" which was able to effect an agreement on a work agenda uncommitted to prior results from either of the sides, is also able to effect an unconditional Israeli withdrawal . . . "according to UN resolutions".

All the indications are that US policy is trying to achieve strategic gains of the first order, embodied in removing Lebanon from its position of neutrality and linking it directly to US policy in the region by "Americanising" its army and opening its skies, land and waters to US forces and making it one of the firmest leaders in furthering the entry of the US into the region.

If the US succeeds in this, and until now it seems that it will succeed, then it will be the true beneficiary of the Israeli war in Lebanon.

AL FAJR
January 16

## WHERE IS SECURITY?

Recently there has been a noticeable increase in assaults and thefts in both villages and towns, so that no street is safe from the hands of thieves who often attack the same shop or house within a short period.

The residents against whom these crimes are increasing have no defence or power in face of these monstrous attacks on their property and possessions. These incidents sometimes even reach the level of attacks on persons and spread fear and chaos among civilians and innocent people without the slightest restraint of conscience.

Security in the occupied Arab territories is the responsibility of the Israeli authorities who are called upon, by the residents, the international community, and international resolutions and commitments to ensure the security of these residents and of their property and to ensure security and guarantee quiet among the people.

Before 1967, the people of the occupied Arab territories witnessed no such level of crimes of assault and robbery which are perpetrated by those with a mentality and psychology foreign to our society, our values and our traditions.

AL QUDS
January 17

# BUDGET CUTS BRING KUFR MANDA TO STANDSTILL

by Awad Abdel Fattah

Several services and development projects in Kufr Manda village, 25 kilometers north of Nazareth, have been at a standstill for the last four months due to a local council strike.

The 30 council employees and 20 high school teachers went on strike September 18, after not receiving their salaries for three months. Delayed payments and cuts in the council budget by the Israeli authorities had led the local council into increasing financial deficits and debts, effecting their employees' salaries.

The teachers and employees, however, returned to work December 21 after the director of the Israeli interior ministry, Haim Kubarski, promised to meet their demands. This followed a meeting with a delegation representing the local village council on December 19. During the strike the local council maintained sanitation and medical services for the 6500 population of the village. "Otherwise the situation in our village would have become unbearable," one resident told **Al Fajr**. The clinic was shut for two weeks at the beginning of the strike but reopened after popular pressure. The employees of these two vital services were paid from the money of other employees, according to officials from the local council. "This," said Muhammad Zeidan, head of the local council, "lessened the bad effects of the strike on residents and consequently reduced much of their suffering."

In the village schools, 20 teachers are still taking disruptive action to protest nonpayment of their salaries. "But," said one teacher, "this has caused the loss of more than 25 school days. It is not possible to make this up for the time being."

### Projects at Standstill

The declaration of the strike was a manifestation of the fiscal crisis of the local councils. Projects vital to the village were halted a year earlier. Since September 1981 street lighting has been disconnected by the Israel Electricity Company because the local council has not been able to pay their bill. Half the internal road network has not been repaired, and holes are visible everywhere. Some parts of the village are not yet connected with paved roads.

A drainage system, work on which should have begun two years ago, has now been abandoned. Discontent is also expressed by the residents about the old water network which has not been renovated since 1963, when it was established. The network is frequently inoperative, locals say.

Local council building is at a standstill. The present offices of the council were originally a three-room family house which the council purchased three years ago.

The schools in which about 2700 pupils receive education have also been hit by the cash shortage. There is a lack of 20 rooms at the high school. All three local schools lack vital equipment and laboratories.

### The Roots of the Crisis

At present Kufr Manda council has debts of IS1.4 million which have been amassed from 1979. Officials say that after taking account of devaluation the real figure is about IS4 million. Muhammad Zeidan affirms that this deficit is caused by "arbitrary cuts in our proposed budgets."

**KUFR MANDA PROPOSED/APPROVED BUDGETS**

| Year | Proposed Budgets | Approved Budgets |
|---|---|---|
| 1979 | IS 1,717,000 | IS 836,870 |
| 1980 | IS 4,540,000 | IS 1,894,000 |
| 1981 | IS 15,072,000 | IS 6,354,000 |
| 1982 | IS 20,725,000 | IS 14,997,000 |

Zeidan explains that the development budget of the local council is "petty." The 1982 development budget was IS600,000, he said, noting that this sum is not enough to pave 200 meters of road. "What happened," he elaborated, "was that we were usually forced to finance development from the ordinary budgets." He also complained that delays in sending allocations contributes to the creation of deficits, because Israeli currency loses value so quickly.

### Israeli Circles

Senior Israeli officials reject the explanations of the local council. They claim that Arab councils don't levy taxes from the residents — or ascribe the crisis to what they call "the failure of the local council to run the affairs of the village." The head of the local council dispels "these lying and false accusations." He told **Al Fajr** that Kufr Manda council has levied about 77 percent of the taxes, "the highest percentage in the Arab villages." Regarding the accusation of unsuccessful administration, Muhammad al-Alem, a local resident said, "if our local council was the only one which faces a financial crisis, it might be true, but they all do." Mustafa Shannawi, a doctor from the village, said that these pretexes made by the Israeli officials are aimed at covering "their racist policy towards our local council and others." Mustafa, like others, expressed his support for the present administration and dismissed the charge of failure.

No one sees an immediate solution to the crisis. Israeli officials are accused of not being concerned about the problem. A meeting which was held between the council administration and the interior minister last month, came out with a decision that the interior ministry send a team to the village on December 21 to look into the case. Although the team was briefed on the problem with details backed with facts and figures, the reply which it sent later was not positive. "We rejected the reply because it did not indicate any agreement to actually increase the budget or a solution to the crisis," said Zeidan. The interior ministry proposed the council pay off debts by the end of March 1983 by levying new taxes.

The council plans to send a letter to the interior ministry rejecting its reply. "The Israeli authorities," Zeidan summed up, "are trying to evade responsibility and keep the Arab villages retarded and backward. This is the essence of Zionist policy which is clear and known to everyone."

Meanwhile, workers are considering renewing their strike if the interior ministry's promise to solve the problem is not honoured.

# Voluntary Work Committee Encourages Self-help

# Jabalia Residents Pitch-in, Tackle Storm Damage

The new year's flash floods, lightning and hail storms in Gaza have kept the voluntary work committee of Jabalia youth club busy. A dozen committee members organised the material supplies, tools and non-club volunteers into several teams to tackle some of the destructive effects of what locals call "the most severe storms of the decade."

The VWC — mostly secondary school and university students — and other camp residents, repaired broken tile roofs and windows in most of the camp's UNRWA elementary and preparatory schools, with materials donated by locals. Many had been left in disrepair for years, as UNRWA claims financial inability to supply the needed materials. Teachers have often sent young children home during ordinary rain storms because of leaks.

The core of VWC youth, equipped with shovels and wheel barrows, were joined by by-standers, encouraged by their example. In one neighbourhood, a 100-metre long cement-block walkway was built over deep puddles to collect the water. Adults could be seen carrying young children who had been caught in the heavy rains on their way home from school. Some residents, better prepared with warm clothing for the inclement weather than their neighbours, ran errands.

"Our houses are not prepared for heavy rain," said Suhail, a young man who currently works in an Israeli factory. "My uncle brought his kids and the dough for the day's bread to our house during one of the storms. Their whole house — two rooms — was flooded."

The VWC helped several families, like that of Suhail's uncle, by piling sand in front of their houses so that the rainwater would flow away from the buildings, usually without credit. When **Al Fajr** asked one of the heads-of-households that was helped by the VWC, 'who had dug the sand mound?' he replied that he assumed it was UNRWA.

Head of the Jabalia voluntary work committee, Samir al-Hilu, was pleased with the small group's work. "It was a good thing for people to see other camp residents helping them only because they sympathise with their problems," he said.

Trough built to collect rainwater that is swamping Jabalia camp's unpaved streets/Pop

**January 11, 1983**

### BREAK IN

JERUSALEM — The store "Video Samir" on Abu Abeideh Ben Jarah St. was attacked. Thieves tried unsuccessfully to break the locks on the doors of the shop. The shop was also attacked last week when thieves stole most of its contents.

**JANUARY 12, 1983**

### STONERS ARRESTED

Israeli forces arrested 10 youths on charges of throwing stones at Israeli vehicles in Nablus. Israel radio noted that stone-throwing continued through the night.

### CASUALTY UP-DATE

TEL AVIV — The Israeli military spokesperson announced that Israeli losses since the start of the invasion of Lebanon last June stand at 456 killed and 2461 wounded.

### STUDENT POLL

TEL AVIV — Elections for the Arab Students Council and the Regional Union at Tel Aviv University were won by the Israeli Communist Party-backed Arab Students Front which gained all the seats on the council and in the union. The National Progressive Movement and the ASF contested in the elections. Seventy-five percent of those eligible voted.

### ARABS TO CELEBRATE JEWISH HOLIDAY?

JAFFA — Arab residents have protested the amendment of a law proposed by the Tel Aviv municipality which forces the Arab population to close their shops on (the Jewish feast of The Day of Atonement) "Yom Kippur." Nasim Shakar, lawyer for the Arab Council in Jaffa, said that he will turn to the High Court if this amendment becomes a law.

### DOWN THE TUBES?

TEL AVIV — The Central Office for Statistics in Israel has announced that there was an eight percent drop in production in 1982. The income from industrial and agricultural produce was US $5 billion.

### PALESTINIANS ARRESTED FOR SLEEPING

**Haaretz** newspaper reported that the police arrested 14 "members of a minority" (i.e. Arabs), on a charge of not having permission to stay in the town of Holon. Nineteen others were arrested yesterday. The police are carrying out combing operations following the attack on a bus in Tel Aviv.

**JANUARY 13, 1983**

### NO COMPROMISE

RIYAD, SAUDI ARABIA — Rafiq Natsheh, the PLO representative in Riyad and member of the FATAH central committee, denied that the PLO has accepted the so-called compromise concerning the seven-member Arab League committee's visit to Great Britain. It was reported that the PLO had agreed to be represented on the committee by Mohammad Milhem, mayor of Halhoul.

Natsheh, in a statement to the Saudi newspaper, **Al-Riyad**, said that the PLO rejects this proposal, considering it an affront to the legitimacy of its representation of the Palestinian people.

Meanwhile, in Amman, Mohammad Milhem, exiled mayor of Halhoul, has announced that no one has contacted him about participating as PLO representative in the Arab League delegation.

### NAJAH BLOCKADED

Military barricades are still in position around Najah University in Nablus. Local sources have declared that Israeli soldiers at the barricades are letting through students who are Nablus residents and turning away the rest. In this way the military authorities are applying order no. 854, which the "civil administration" had agreed to freeze for one year.

### HEALTH WORKERS VOTE

JERUSALEM — The Union of Nurses and Midwives in the West Bank held elections at the Vocational Unions Centre in Jerusalem.

### TAPE RECORDER GRABBED

GAZA — Thieves opened the rear-window of a car belonging to Ahmed Abu Wardeh and stole a tape-recorder. The theft is the 24th of its kind in Gaza in less than a month.

### COUNCIL QUITS

NABLUS — The officer of the interior of the West Bank command has accepted the joint resignation of the head and members of Beita village council.

**January 14, 1983**

### ANSAR PRISONERS FREE?

TEL AVIV — Radio Israel reported that 30 people being held at Ansar camp in South Lebanon were released this week.

### SETTLERS BOOSTED

TEL AVIV — Israel TV reported that Israel intends to increase the number of settlers in Ariel settlement near Nablus to 160,000 residents — the same number of people as in the town of Beer Sheba.

The report mentioned that Israel has been working for years to convert the settlement into a service centre for neighbouring settlements.

### NO HEALTH AID FOR JAFFA ARABS

TEL AVIV — **Haaretz** reports that since 1981 the Wolfson Hospital has been refusing to give medical treatment or care to the Arab residents of Jaffa.

### HEADMASTER DISMISSED

HEBRON — Ali Mohammad Suleiman Daoud, a teacher from Sa'ir, received a letter from the education department stating it had decided to sack him as of May 3, 1982!

### CHRISTIANS ALLOWED ACCESS RIVER JORDAN

The Israeli authorities have agreed to the request of Patriarch Theodoros, head of the Greek Orthodox community in the holy land and in Jordan, to baptise Christians according to religious ritual in the River Jordan, on the occasion of the Festival of Baptism which falls on January 18, on the Eastern calendar.

### FEES WAIVED

NABLUS — The Jordanian department of passports has cancelled the fees it demanded from residents of the West Bank who asked for new passports or for the renewal of old ones. It has demanded instead, the signature of reliable West Bank residents, as well as the signatures of a mukhtar, mayor and head of a chamber of commerce.

**January 15, 1983**

### TAXATION PROTEST SYSTEMATISED

NABLUS — Zafir Masri, head of the Nablus chamber of commerse, announced that the department has, for a time, been dealing with the matter of the many taxes imposed randomly on businesses and residents. The department has sent a number of notices protesting these practices, especially concerning income tax.

### NO BUILDING PERMITS

NABLUS — The military-appointed Nablus municipality has stopped granting licenses for building by residents in areas in the west and east of town, as well as in the Sawaneh and Green Belt areas which cover an area of 700 dunums. These areas were considered 'closed' by the military and no building is allowed there.

### BREAK-OUT FOILED

TEL AVIV — An Israeli police source said that 10 Palestinian prisoners being held in Kfar Yona, in the north of Israel, tried to escape. The spokesperson said that the 10 prisoners, all of whom are serving life-sentences on "security" charges, broke the bars of their cells and tried to make a getaway. A prison guard, however, noticed something wrong with the bars, began to investigate and discovered what had happened.

The 10 were subsequently put into separate cells and a committee has been formed to look into the incident.

### PN AND WORKERS PROTEST SETTLEMENTS

TEL AVIV — Members of the Peace Now movement demonstrated together with many residents of poor Israeli Jewish quarters at the settlement of Efrat near Bethlehem to protest Israeli settlement in the occupied Arab territories.

The demonstrators carried banners reading: "Money for poor quarters, not for settlements."

### CATHOLICS ROBBED

NAZARETH — Four masked persons attacked the house of the Greek Catholic community in Nazareth and stole money and jewelery belonging to the community, as well as church

**Jabalia camp kids, Gaza Strip, don't mind the rain as long as they are together/Pop**

Greek Orthodox Patriarch Theodoros I celebrates the Christian festival of Epiphany alongside the Jordan River on January 18.

money and its gold cross.

### ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN STUDENTS LINKED

TEL AVIV — The leftist-oriented CAMPUS movement at Tel Aviv University issued a declaration outlining its activities for strengthening relations with Najah University in Nablus. The declaration stated that a delegation representing the movement visited Najah University, last Saturday, to attend a Palestinian folklore and book festival. The Israeli authorities prevented the students from reaching the university and activities were cancelled. (See page 6).

**January 16, 1983**

### INFILTRATOR — AGED 3

The Israeli police are currently investigating the case of a three-year-old Palestinian child who entered Israel illegally. The boy is the son of Acre-born Samir Darwish who was killed three months ago in Lebanon.

Apparently Darwish's wife sent the child to its grandmother in Acre and returned to her relatives in Syria after the death of her husband.

### MORE SETTLEMENTS

The ministerial committee on Israeli settlement affairs agreed to establish four settlements south of the Hebron mountains. Three of them are to be within the 1967 borders.

### FINED FOR 'HANDKERCHIEFING'

NABLUS — The military authorities imposed a fine of IS50,000 on a Nablus resident after he threw a handkerchief from the balcony of his house onto a military patrol in the street. The patrol thought it was a stone.

### SOLDIER HIT

SOUTH LEBANON — Israeli military sources said that an Israeli soldier was wounded during an ambush near Burj al-Shamali in South Lebanon.

### RUMOURS OF KILLINGS AT ANSAR

SOUTH LEBANON — Reliable Lebanese sources report that residents of the town of Ansar in South Lebanon have heard the sound of heavy gun-fire from inside Ansar detention camp.

They assert that they have discovered a mass grave containing the bodies of 15 youths from Ansar camp and that the Israelis warned residents of the town that they faced "severe punishment" if they revealed the matter.

Other reports say Israeli guards opened fire on prisoners a few days ago leading to the death of three of them and the wounding of others. One of those wounded, Ibrahim Shatit, was taken to a Haifa hospital where he is still receiving treatment.

### DENTIST TOWN-ARRESTED

EL-BIREH — The Israeli authorities imposed an administrative town arrest order on dentist, Azmi Shuaibi, member of al-Bireh municipal council, for a period of six months.

### SHEIKH'S RESTRICTION RENEWED

TULKARM — The military authorities in Tulkarm summoned Sheikh Nassouh Abbas Barham al-Ramieh, former religion teacher in Tulkarm secondary school, who was forced to retire and informed him of the renewal of his town arrest for a further six months.

### HOMES SAVED

JERUSALEM — The Israeli High Court issued an order nisi preventing the Israeli 'civil administration' in Gaza from destroying three houses belonging to residents of the village of Beit Lahiya, in the north of Gaza Strip.

### BOMB IN SOUTH

TEL AVIV — A hand grenade exploded on a railway line in Kiryat Gat in southern Israel. An Israeli police spokesperson said that the explosion, which happened after a train had just passed, destroyed the track. Israeli police and soldiers began combing the area.

**January 17, 1983**

### HEBRON DEMONSTRATION

HEBRON — Students of the two institutions of higher education in Hebron declared a strike and held a demonstration to protest the arrest of 27 Hebron University students.

### BEDUIN FIGHT GRAB

TEL AVIV — The Central Israeli Court in Beer Sheba has issued a temporary injunction against the Green Patrol to stop them preventing Beduin shepherds from having access to land in the Naqab which the Israeli military authorities claim belong to them.

### STUDENT COUNCIL TO TRIAL

NABLUS — The nine members of the Najah University Students Council are to be tried on charges of 'incitement.' They have been detained for two weeks following a student celebration at the university.

### SHEKEL PLUMMETS

HEBRON — The price of the Jordanian dinar reached IS100 — the highest exchange rate since the Israeli shekel was issued two years ago.

### FIRST ANIVERSARY OF PHONE CUT

JENIN — Residents of the villages of Yamoun and Silat al-Haritheh in the Jenin district complained about the continued disconnection of telephone lines between their villages and other West Bank towns which has lasted for a year.

### UNDOCTRINATION COMING

TEL AVIV — Israeli Education Minister Zevulun Hammer has decided to form a committee of specialists to look into Arab education syllabuses, in order to stop what he calls national "extremism" among Palestinian youth.

**January 18, 1983**

### LAND MINE EXPLODES

TEL AVIV — An Israeli police spokesperson said that a landmine exploded yesterday, damaging a tanker on a road south-east of Kfar Saba, 19 kilometers north-east of Tel Aviv. According to the spokesperson, one Israeli was injured. Following the incident, Israeli army forces detained dozens of Palestinian youths and searched the area looking for other explosives.

### FAMILY FEUD

TEL AVIV — Israeli sources report that dozens of members of Israeli Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement raided the office of the Gush Emunim movement which is headed by Moshe Levinger in the settlement of Ramot (Nabi Samuel) in Jerusalem.

### GALILEE LAND-GRAB

SHAFA 'AMR — Heads of local councils in the Galilee have sent protest notices to Yusef Burg, Israeli interior minister, against the ministry's intention to confiscate Arab land in the Galilee and annex it to the Misgav settlement council.

### ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS

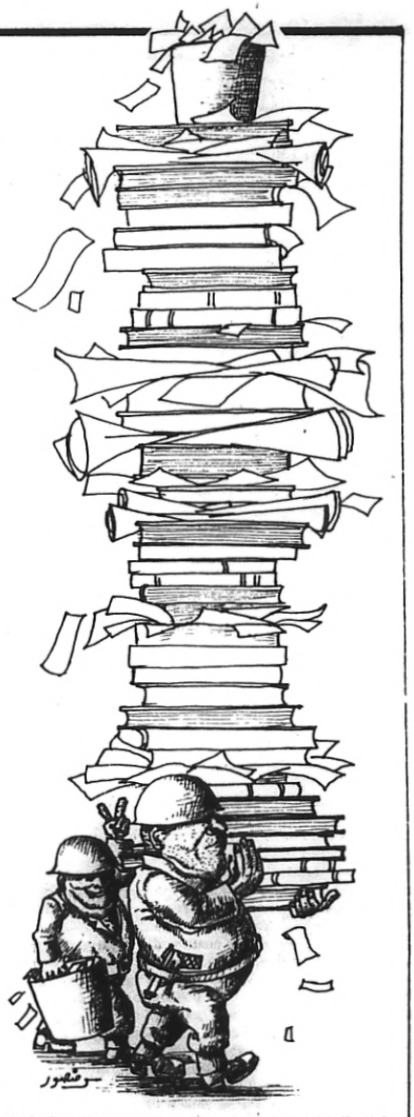
BETHLEHEM — The Armenian Church celebrated Christmas here, January 18. At 10:30 am, his Holiness Yaghisha Dardarian, the Armenian patriarch, arrived in the city accompanied by a number of bishops and members of the Armenian community in Jerusalem.

### ANSAR PRISONERS FREED

A new group of prisoners at Ansar detention camp in South Lebanon have been released. The prisoners were greeted with mass celebrations in the town of Sidon and the neighbouring district.

### THIS IS PROGRESS?

Israeli Science Minister, Yuval Ne'eman has announced his intention to turn the West Bank into an area for the production of scientific apparatus, especially in the Nablus mountains, where the manufacture of calculators is to be developed.



**Bethlehem University and other institutions of higher education were stripped of written and printed material, last weekend. The reason for the Israeli military action has yet to be revealed.**

## Jaffa Arabs Oppose Enforced Restrictions on Jewish Holidays

Arab residents in Jaffa have declared their strong opposition to the Tel Aviv municipality's moves aimed at restricting their movement on Jewish religious holidays. "We will go to the High Court, should the municipality try to force the new law on us," said Fakhri Jdai, pharmacist and member of the Jaffa Arabs Committee. He was commenting on a Tel Aviv municipality announcement January 14 that they intended to pass a regulation requiring Arab businessmen to close on the Day of Atonement — Yom Kippur.

In a telephone interview with **Al Fajr**, Jdai said that two lawyers, members of the committee, had requested a full text of the proposed regulation, in order to study it and determine their response. Jaffa Arabs say that they have not been officially consulted so far. Concern grew among the 20,000 Arab residents after newspaper reports announced the municipality's move.

Nasim Shakkar, Jaffa lawyer, was quoted by **The Jerusalem Post** saying that such a law would certainly damage the business of Arabs, in addition to violating their rights.

The new regulation also imposes restrictions on the activities of the Arab residents on Saturdays and other Jewish holidays. Reports say they will be required to stop transporting goods or "making any noise which could be heard outside their shops."

According to press reports the new law has been approved by the Tel Aviv executive and finance committees. It must get ratification from the municipal council and the Israeli interior ministry before it can be implemented. Deputy Tel Aviv Mayor Haim Basok told Israeli journalists that the law was accepted by the municipality under "religious pressure." He defended it by saying that "Israel is a Jewish state, and not Arab."

# 'Black Panthers' And 'Peace Now' In Alliance

by Lili Galili

"Until 1967 we were taught that the enemy is there," says Reuven Ben-Haroush pointing in the direction of the Old City. "After '67 we understood that the real enemy is here"– and he points in the direction of West Jerusalem.

We stand in the heart of the Musrara quarter, on the border between the two parts of the city. We turn to a group of houses which have known better days. Time has brought decay on them. The sentences we have just heard are not new in Musrara. It was here that the Black Panthers (an Oriental Jewish anti-discrimination group) started at the beginning of the '70s and it is here that the seeds of renewed social unrest and of a new political alliance are being sown.

Why in Musrara? "Maybe also because we were so close to the border and the fights which once took place here. People felt that this was the end of the world," explains Ben-Haroush. Today there is no border, but the closeness of the (occupied) territories marks the new ideology developing in the neighbourhood. Not long ago a group of young people won an important victory in the neighbourhood committee elections: seven members out of 13 in the committee are part of this group whose platform stresses the slogan: "Money to the poor neighbourhoods and not to the settlements." They protest against the policies of the government which in their opinion, force young families to leave the neighbourhood and buy subsidized apartments across the Green Line. There is no building of new apartments in the neighbourhood, which is small and getting old. They see this phenomenon as an expression of a political plot being devised at their expense to populate the settlements in the territories as quickly as possible: a kind of "master-program" of which they (the inhabitants of the neighbourhood) are victims because they have no choice. In the past they protested against the Alignement government and Golda Meir said "they are not nice boys." Today they are going to fight the Likud which was brought to power by their votes. They also want to demystify a ne god: 'Project Renewal' of the [poor] neighbourhoods.

We take a walk around the neighbourhood, which was a prestigious Arab residential area pre-1948 and we pass sites which reflect the destruction of the Project for the young people. The direction we take is called "the tourists' path' because it is here that the tourists are brought to be shown what has been done with the money they gave to the "natives."

The start of the tourists' path is the community centre which is, in their opinion, a stunning monument of uselessness. The centre is large enough to suit a town of 15,000 inhabitants, while Musrara has only 2,500 inhabitants of which 17 are school children in first grade. The wall on which the names of the contributors have been inscribed is known locally as "The Wailing Wall" and it represents site number one on the tourists' path. "Its purpose is only to impress." The same can be said about the three luxury shelters which have been built ("superfluous, only taking up place which could be used for housebuilding"), and the decorative stone platforms built in the heart of the neighbourhood. "Millions have been spent on these platforms, which are only for decoration." the young men explain excitedly "and see how the people in the surrounding area live."

Mr. Elgani is the eternal proof: an old man in a suffocating basement room, facing the stone platforms. When we enter his room, we find Elgani suffering from a severe asthma attack, and his living conditions are certainly of no help. Because of the suffocating atmosphere he cannot utter a word, he he only looks, an expression of despair in his eyes, at his visitors. "Such are the priorities of the project," say the visitors when we leave Elgani's room.

Peace Now members demonstrate in the new West Bank settlement of Efrat, January 15.

Here and there, one can find beautiful houses in the neighbourhood. These houses have already been renovated, but they are fewer than the figures published by the government. They are the exception which proves the rule. Under these housing circumstances, the young people are angry not only at the government policies which uproot people and force them to live in the territories, but also at the Ashkenazis (Western Jews) invading the neighbourhood, which is threatened by a fate similar to that of Yemin Moshe (another quarter in Jerusalem which was emptied of its Sephardi inhabitants, reconstructed and turned into an expensive residential area inhabited mainly by Ashkenazi Israelis, t.n.). The picturesque street "Cholda the Prophet" was renamed "Cholda the Ashkenazi" after some Ashkenazi bohemian families moved in. "This is not because they are Ashkenzi, but because they represent a process which we want to stop," say the locals.

The swastikas drawn by an anonymous hand on the walls of the main street hide a different message. Who drew them? "Angry people," smiles Reuven Ben-Haroush, one of the young people in the new neighbourhood committee. "Angry people," among them army deserters and unemployed; there are plenty of them in the neighbourhood. They also drew the sign which says "The '49 settlers."

At the end of last week a group of "Peace Now" people and some of the neighbourhood representatives met in Zion Haion's house, one of the young people elected to the committee with the platform "Money for the [poor] neighbourhoods and not for the settlements." At this meeting they are willing, for the first time, to talk openly about the link developing between them. But it is more correct to say "almost openly" because everything is still very new and sensitive and accompanied by hesitation on both sides.

"We don't have a common body, we have common activities and mutual recognition. There is no intention to found a new movement," says Naftali Raz, one of the 'Peace Now' leaders in Jerusalem.

The beginning of this process was a telephone call, about three months ago, from the group in the neighbourhood who suggested a demonstration be organized against the settlements, under the slogan "Money for the neighbourhoods and not for the settlements." This initiative was based on the acknowledgement that the borders between political and social messages have been blurred by now and they have become one ideology.

The idea of co-operation between the neighbourhoods and Peace Now is not a new one. Peace Now has been trying for four and a half years to change its white Ashkenazi image. There have already been attempts to build ad hoc organizations, common demonstrations and initiatives which had been throughly rejected.

Today Peace Now is careful to keep its identity as a movement committed to one issue. In this spirit, it has rejected the neighbourhood representatives' proposal to change the movement's name into "Peace Now, Welfare Now." The immediate link between the two bodies is based on their common opposition to the settlements, but there are also a fundamental and larger conception which sees that the struggle for peace is lost without the struggle for social welfare.

Parallel to the deepening connections with the poor neighbourhoods in Jerusalem, Peace Now has contacts in other places: in Tel Aviv, for instance, its representatives meet with people from Jaffa and with young members of Tami (Aharon Abu Hatzeira's basically Moroccan party) in the framework of what is defined as an "effort of national importance." Under the surface there are still many apprehensions and both sides admit their existence. These apprehensions are a result of stereotypes which grew up over time: "The rich and the spoiled" versus "the violent who burn tyres." Therefore, the first effort is directed at breaking down these stereotypes and neutralizing the prejudices, which have a basis. Today, three months later, both sides say that suspicions are disappearing although they still exist among second-rank activists. "The best sign that we are coming nearer is the fact that now we dare to have debates," says Naftali Raz. "Only a short time ago we didn't dare to do so; everybody was very polite. This does not mean that we all agree on what our priorities and emphases should be. They would have preferred that Peace Now become a two-issue movement. We are not ready for that. But we are aware that without Zion Haion the struggle for peace would be lost and that Zion's struggle for welfare would be lost without Peace Now."

Zion Haion, candidate for head of the neighbourhood committee, is more careful in his wording. "We definitely have things to lose. It is clear that we don't intend to neglect our major problems — reconstruction and rehabilitation of the neighbourhoods, additional allowances for education and housing — because of our link with Peace Now."

What pushed the activists from the neighbourhoods, known as a Likud 'fortress' in Jerusalem, to this surprising "betrothal"? Saadia Marziano, Black Panther and ex-MK, explains: "The situation has caused a change in the people's way of thinking. Four hundred people in the neighbourhood have signed a petition addressed to the minister of housing saying that building in the territories is at the expense of the neighbourhoods. People understood that without peace, nobody will listen to the problem of poverty. Begin is sure that the neighbourhoods are in his pocket. Among 400,000 demonstrators in Tel Aviv, there must have been50,000 people from the neighbourhoods. It cannot happen anymore that the Peace Now people are beaten up while distributing petitions. We are with them," he adds with a smile.

## This Week's Censorship

Following is a breakdown of censorship cuts for issue 142, January 21, 1983

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of original articles submitted | 31 |
| Number of articles totally censored out | 13 |
| Number of articles mutilated beyond use | 1 |
| Number of articles partially censored but used | 2 |
| Number of articles passed | 15 |

Ja'abari house after settlers' demolition

# KIRYAT ARBA SETTLERS DEMOLISH HEBRON HOME

Israeli settlers from Kiryat Arba settlement near Hebron, demolished a house belonging to a Palestinian resident of the city January 8. Earlier the settlers reportedly told the house owner, Zaid Roubin Ja'abari, that he should tear down the house because he does not have a construction license, and threatened to do it themselves, if he refused.

The settlers carried out their threat at about 10 pm, January 8. According to reports from the family four armed men guarding a bulldozer drove up to their home, evicted the family and demolished the house. The following morning Ja'abari filed a complaint at Hebron police station. The police, Ja'abari told **Al Fajr**, visited the site on January 11 and told him they would report the case.

Zaid Ja'abari says that he obtained the proper building permit from Hebron muncipality prior to starting construction. He added that an official from the military governorate zoning department had earlier visited the house, checked the construction and compared it with the original blueprints. Acting mayor of Hebron Mustafa Natshe confirmed Ja'abari's story and added that the house is built within municipal jurisdiction. Natshe told **Al Fajr** that "illegal settler actions" have "got out of proportions." and blamed the Israeli authorities for not putting an end to their activities.

The Ja'abari house located in Wadi Abu Ayyash on the eastern edge of the city was still under construction when destroyed. At least 15 other residents who have houses nearby fear that they will be next on the settlers' hit list.

The settlers' act was described by Ja'abari as "criminal. They do not want people to live together peacefully," he said.

A few days earlier, Israeli settlers from Kiryat Arba uprooted four electricty pylons which supply power to two Palestinian houses.

# Authorities Renew Town Arrests Of Abu Diab, Daqqaq

Town arrest orders on two Palestinians were renewed January 1. The two Jerusalemites continued to be restricted, apparently because of their nationalist stands.

The Israeli military commander of the central region, Uri Orr, signed the orders which were served to Ibrahim Daqqaq, chairman of the engineers union, and Abed Abu Diab, an employee at the East Jerusalem Electricity Company. The administrative restriction order lasts six months. No official reason need to be given for the order. There can be no appeal against it.

Daqqaq's movement was first restricted in August 1980, when he was prohibited from entering the West Bank and Gaza. In January 1982, he was further restricted after being served with a town arrest order which confines him to the city limits during the day time, and to his house during the night. He has to register at the police station daily. Abed Abu Diab has been under town arrest since 1981.

Daqqaq told **Al Fajr** that he was restricted, along with six other nationalist figures, because of their active opposition to the Camp David agreement within the context of the National Guidance Committee. The NGC, which consisted of West Bank mayors, newspaper editors and heads of national institutions, was set up in 1978, to coordinate a local response to the Egyptian-Israeli agreement. The committee, which was chaired by Daqqaq, was declared illegal in 1982. However, it was crippled much earlier.

In May 1980, Hebron Mayor Fahd Qawasmi, and Mayor of Halhoul Mohammad Milhem, committee members, were expelled. One month later explosive charges blew off the legs of Nablus Mayor Bassam Shaka'a, and injured Karim Khalaf, mayor of Ramallah. Al-Bireh Mayor, Ibrahim Tawil escaped injury from a third bomb which was placed in his car.

Daqqaq explained that he has been under close surveillance since 1982. He said that Israeli policemen have been paying him surprise night visits in order to make sure that he was complying with the town restriction.

Town restriction orders issued by the military commander are based on the British Mandate Emergency regulations of 1945. Orders are usually explained by vague statements such as "for the security of the public and the state."

The cases of Palestinian residents who are under town restriction have attracted the attention of foreign journalists who visited them at their homes and reported about their conditions. Amnesty International has also adopted the cases of several town arrestees, including Daqqaq, and is reported to be making efforts to get the Israeli authorities to cancel the orders. The international organisation has been informed of the renewal of the town arrest orders, Daqqaq said.

## Pressure on Tulkarm Area Leaders to Form League

The Israeli military authorities have been exerting pressure on mukhtars and council heads in the Tulkarm area in attempt to establish a Village League branch in their district, according to reports from the area. Some 20 traditional figures, most of whom are newly appointed officials, have under pressure signed an undertaking calling for such a move. The move has been widely reported in the Israeli press.

Villagers from Dhanabah say that village mukhtar Muhammad Balloul was threatened with expulsion if he refused to sign. Other mukhtars and village council heads were threatened with a freeze on all development projects for their villages.

National institutions in Tulkarm announced their opposition to this step. Unconfirmed reports declare that many of those who signed under pressure are planning to quit their official posts in order to avoid joining the Leagues. **Al Fajr** has learned that the Israeli authorities havenominated Ismail Marzouq, head of Hableh Village League, in the Qalqilya area, to head the new league as well.

An earlier attempt to establish a Village League in Tulkarm failed, after most mukhtars and village council heads refused to join. At the time, the seals and stamps of several mukhtars were confiscated, and given to villagers who had close ties with the authorities.

## West Bank Journalist Fined For Carrying "Illegal" Magazine

The Israeli military court in Ramallah sentenced Radwan Abu Ayyash, member of the administrative committee of the Arab Journalists Association in the Occupied Territories, to a three months suspended jail sentence and a fine of IS10,000 December 27. The fine must be paid within 15 days. Abu Ayyash was accused of "incitement against the Israeli authorities and censor, possessing illegal material and supporting the PLO."

During the military court session, an Israeli 'expert on publications' for the military authorities in Ramallah said that Abu Ayyash was arrested because he was carrying a copy of the magazine, **The Palestinian Journalist**, which the expert claimed contained "material inciting against censorship, occupation and incitement to create anarchy."

Felicia Langer, Abu Ayyash's lawyer denied the charges.

The prosecutor dropped accusations of "support for the PLO and incitement against the occupation" for lack of evidence. The Israeli judge suspended the session for one hour to read **The Palestinian Journalist** and then issued his sentence.

Abu Ayyash, who is managing editor of **Al Awdeh** magazine, described the sentence as "heavy." He said **The Palestinian Journalist** magazine is "legal because it is a one-time issue permitted by law. In fact, they want to curb Palestinian journalism."

Abu Ayyash was arrested near the Manara in Ramallah last July. After a 12 day detention he was released on IS5000 bail. Over the past year Abu Ayyash, who also works for the Palestine Press Service office in Jerusalem, has been arrested a number of times while accompanying foreign journalists and TV crews around the West Bank.

# NIGHT VISITS

Late night knocks-on-the-door by Israeli soldiers are familiar sounds to most residents of refugee camps in the occupied territories. Over the last month inhabitants of Jabalia camp, in particular, have been awakened at midnight by army search parties. Posters, books and cassette tapes with any perceived nationalist contents — all on sale in area shops — have been confiscated.

Students from Jabalia and Gaza (town) also report being stopped by military patrols that search their books for drawings or slogans. Until now, the military have only recorded the names, ID numbers and addresses of those searched. Residents can only speculate on the consequences.

## Dheisheh Stone-Throwers Break Car Window

Students at Dheisheh refugee camp, near Bethlehem, threw stones at Israeli vehicles on the main Bethlehem-Hebron road January 11. One Israeli car had its windscreen broken and its driver injured as a result.

There were also reports of stone throwing in Ramallah and al-Bireh.

# Settlers Uproot Family's Olive Saplings

Israeli settuers in the southern West Bank destroyed December 25 and 26 a total of 102 olive saplings belonging to the Zawahreh tribe in the Bethlehem district. The same settlers complained to the border patrol that their cars were stoned by Palestinian residents of the area.

On the morning of December 26, owners of the olive saplings discovered that 51 of their newly planted olive trees had been stolen. The Zawahreh family, whose land is collectively owned by eight brothers, accused a neighbouring family of the sabotage. Members of the Zawahreh family decided to guard their plot in order to catch the saboteurs.

At 9:45 pm that night, two cars carrying six men arrived at the field near Bethlehem. The men immediately started pulling up the saplings and putting them in their cars. When the three brothers guarding the field saw them they started shouting at the robbers who ran quickly to their cars. The Zawahrehs then hit the two cars with a few stones before the cars drove off to nearby Tekoa settlement.

The farmers followed the cars and were stopped by the settlement guard, Abdullah Ismail al-Abed. He accompanied the owners to the land site to make an inspection. By the time the guard and the owners reached the site of the robbery, an Israeli border patrol was already there to inquire into the stoning incident. A complaint had been filed by the settlers.

On December 27 the Zawahrehs filed a counter-complaint at the Bethlehem police who sent two officers to check the field. The police count revealed that 102 plants were uprooted, four of which were found lying on the ground, presumably left by the robbers as they ran away. The owners filed a further protest with the local Israeli military governorate on December 30.

The military promised to investigate the incident. No arrests have been reported.

# Jenin Prisoners Strike

More than 70 Palestinian detainees in Jenin prison started a hunger strike January 1 according to lawyer Abed Asali, who visited clients January 4. The lawyer said that he had learned that prisoners are being beaten by guards in an attempt to break the strike, and that one was injured.

The strike was called to draw attention to conditions at the prison. Prisoners told Abed Asali that some 35 prisoners are housed in one cell three meters long and two and a half meters wide. Prisoners also complained that Israeli guards use any pretext to beat and insult them. They also complained that they are forced to take baths in cold water.

Asali said prisoner Azzam Zakaria suffered two broken ribs as a result of beating. The International Committee of the Red Cross mission in Jerusalem has been informed of the strike, Asali told **Al Fajr**.

There are also unconfirmed reports that prisoners in Hebron and Nablus prisons have been on strike since December 17 and 19, respectively.

# Court Saves Grabber

The Israeli military court in Tel Aviv found Moshe Rayeich, an Israeli land broker and settler from Elkana, not guilty of charges that he forged documents to grab land in Azzoun Etmeh near Jenin. Rayeich was arrested in August 1982. The court decided to release him because of lack of evidence against him. The 200 dunum land plot central to the case belongs to 90-year-oid Abd al-Qader Qadous.

On January 7, 1982 three unidentified land dealers broke into Abd al-Qader Qadous's house and forced him to sign a sale-document. Suleiman Ahmad, Qadous's lawyer told **Al Fajr** that this case was transferred to a military court for arbitration. "The three land-dealers were arrested but their names were not released," said Suleiman Ahmad. Two weeks later settlers from Elkana, built on the land of Azzoun Etmeh, paved a road 2.3 metres wide and 100 metres long over the land of Abd al-Qader Qadous. No appeal is allowed in the West Bank's military courts.

# Mystery Mass Detention

Over 100 residents of Bethlehem, Hebron, Tulkarm, Jenin and Nablus were released January 3 after five days of detention at al-Fara' prison near Jenin. Hamdi Farraj, an editor of **Al Shira'a** magazine and known among colleagues as 'the most arrested West Bank journalist', described the detention as "collective punishment." One of those detained in the raid told **Al Fajr** that Israeli soldiers broke into his house in Dheisheh refugee camp December 30, 1982 and summoned him to Bethlehem military headquarters. He was then taken to al-Fara' to join the other detainees who included teachers, lawyers, students and trade union activists.

Farraj said the 100 were placed in a stable 100 meters long and 30 meters wide and issued three blankets. Food consisted of potatoes and hummus. "We were ordered to walk around with our hands behind our backs. Discussion with the military police and cigarettes were not permitted."

Farraj repeated that when he argued with 'Captain Qadir,' jail warden, about their right to smoke he was transferred to solitary confinement.

After their release none of the prisoners were able to explain why they were arrested.

# Activists in Jenin Arrested

December 31, Israeli troops raided houses in Jenin and neighbouring villages. Several residents were arrested including Burhan Kmail, secretary of the union of stonecutters in Qabatya, Ghassan Jarrar and Basil Bazrawi, members of the newly-elected Bir Zeit University student council, Ziad Labadi, a student at Najah University, Ahmad al-Haj Yasin and Shuja' al-Hafi.

Reports from Jenin state that the Israeli authorities are summoning politically active youth on a daily basis and interrogating them on their movements.

# VILLAGE LEAGUES CREATE RIFT IN US DEPARTMENT

The US East Jerusalem consulate and its staff are once again under attack by Israel and some of its friends in the US House of Representatives.

The new controversy came to light when columnist Jack Anderson wrote in the **Washington Post**, December 11, an article based on his own sources, relating a discussion between Representative James Scheuer, a Democrat from New York and US State Department envoy to the Middle East, Morris Draper. Congressman Scheuer, following a recent visit to Lebanon, Israel and the West Bank, met with and invited Mustafa Dudeen, then-head of the Hebron Village League, to the US.

Scheuer, according to Anderson, complained to Draper about "the pro-Palestinian attitude of the US consul (in East Jerusalem) and his staff." Scheuer, Anderson wrote, "accused (Consul-General Brandon Grove) and his staff of favoring radical Palestinians and ignoring moderate" leaders who also are "more receptive to an accommodation with Israel," such as Mustafa Dudeen. Scheuer went on to suggest that Dudeen "is certainly someone the Jerusalem consulate should keep in touch with," accusing Grove and other consulate staff of "studiously (having) avoided Dudeen."

Scheuer further attacked Grove, saying that "the Israelis, who generally get along with most American diplomats assigned to their country, actively dislike and distrust Grove." Anderson attested to this, saying that during his last visit to Israel he "became aware of the deep hostility the Israeli government holds towards the diplomats" in the US East Jerusalem consulate.

According to Anderson, Draper defended Grove as his personal friend and defended other staff members.

consulate staff. Draper's argument was that it was Grove's job as US consul "to maintain contact with Palestinian leaders . . . even if they are PLO sympathizers." Draper then is said to have told Scheuer that the US cannot ignore the fact that "most of the West Bank population supports the PLO." Draper is also said to have charged some in carrying out "a smear campaign" against Grove, implying that Israel is likely behind this, and is said to have called Dudeen an "unsavory" character.

At the State Department, spokesperson Alan Romberg rejected charges made against Grove and his staff, reaffirming "full confidence." Romberg also said US policy is made in Washington and the East Jerusalem consulate carries out this US policy.

In a further rebuff to Dudeen, Romberg added, "We do not believe that seeing Mr. Dudeen would further our primary aim of encouraging early Palestinian and Jordanian participation in the peace process."

W. Thomas Homan, State Department deputy director for public affairs in Near East Asia, also confirmed Romberg's basic trust in Grove and his staff. Homan said that there is no disagreement between the consulate and the State Department, adding that the US consulate in East Jerusalem "is not sympathetic to any point of view," and its functions are similar to anywhere else, ie, providing services to US citizens and passport services to those needing it. The East Jerusalem consulate functions as other consulates do, providing "a usual range of economic, political. . . public affairs work — press and cultural." Homan also said that the US consulate does not "espouse anyone's cause . . . we do what the secretary of state asks us to do." The US consulate in East Jerusalem, Homan said, "has a rather unique mission," which is to serve the inhabitants of East Jerusalem and the West Bank. The consulate does not come under the authority of the US embassy in Tel Aviv "because we regard Jerusalem as occupied territory." The US considers the territories occupied "subject to negotations, including so-called Arab Jerusalem." On the issue of Dudeen, Homan said, "the Israelis would like very much for the consulate to be very active in dealing with the Village Leagues." However, he continued, since the US has some objectives in the area, such as eliciting broader Palestinian participation in the peace process, "we don't believe that (contacts with the Leagues) would promote" this objective. If US policy-makers believed that US contacts with the Village League would broaden Palestinian participation in the peace process and promote the interests of the US, Israel and the Palestinians, Homan continued, "then we would do so." Homan said that US diplomats consider it a "mandate" to broaden the participation of parties to the dispute, under Camp David and the Reagan plan, and "whatever doesn't add to that equation, we don't feel is useful to pursue."

Meanwhile, Dudeen himself added to the controversy with an attack on the consulate via the Israeli government's Arabic organ, **Al Anba**, December 15. Dudeen said that consulate employees "state their desire for peace while they support only extremist elements. The US should not place the Palestinians in an unimportant position considering that most of the problems of the Palestinian people came as result of American policies." Dudeen insisted to the paper that he still plans to visit the US soon. His US host, Congressman Scheuer, said last week that the invitation had been postponed "indefinitely."

# EDUCATION

AT RAMALLAH FRIENDS GIRLS SCHOOL:

## ANTI-PLO OATH FACES FIVE AMERICANS

In a rapid turn-around the principal and foreign faculty at a Quaker-run West Bank school were first ordered to sign an anti-PLO oath and then told they did not have to. On January 11, Nancy Nye and four other American women teaching at the Friends Girls School in Ramallah had been ordered to report to the military government of the West Bank with signed pledges or else face deportation. However, the meeting was postponed January 10 indefinitely by the military, possibly because of public and official pressure by American Quakers and the Jerusalem US Consulate.

Nye was called to military government headquarters January 6 and asked to sign a work permit application. After Nye refused to sign the application because it was written in Arabic and Hebrew, she was shown an English translation of the loyalty oath section on the same application. Nye told the military official that she could not sign any political statement before she checked with the Quakers headquarters in the United States.

Nye told **Al Fajr** that she was not allowed to take the English translation home with her but was given the work permit applications for herself and the other four lecturers which were written in Arabic and Hebrew and told to return on Monday with them signed. The 37 year old headmistress contacted the Friends United Meeting (FUM) offices in Richmond, Indiana, headquarters and highest body governing Quaker affairs, which has owned and administrated Friends Girls School in Ramallah since 1889. A boys school was started in 1904.

In Washington the FUM legislative lobbying group chided US state department officials who had earlier said on ABC television in December that the loyalty oaths had been cancelled by the Israeli authorities. Then the Quaker head office had assured members and friends in a nation-wide circular that the Ramallah school teachers would be spared from having to sign.

When news of the latest developments reached the US, local Quakers say a chain of high level contacts were activated to contact senior US State Department officials. The US Consulate in Jerusalem was informed through the State Department and told to follow up the case.

Nye told **Al Fajr** that the wrong information supplied by ABC and confirmed by the State Department pushed the Quaker friends and volunteers to work doubly hard to overcome the misunderstanding that had eased the earlier pressure by concerned Friends. "The US State Department itself seemed to have been surprised by the enforcement, thinking that the problem was solved after Secretary of State George Shultz had made a declaration that the oaths were 'contrary to academic freedom,'" explained Nye.

Nye, whose school has 400 students, seemed pleased with the Israeli retreat but was very cautious in accepting that the retreat might be permanent. Students at the school were informed of the Israeli retreat during chapel on January 10. The school principal wanted her students to know that she did not sign anything, she explained. Besides its high academic level, the school is the only West Bank secondary school providing a special English curriculum.

The Quakers have a long history of peace activity and opposition to signing any kind of allegiances. Nye explained that Quakers do not take oaths even when testifying in court.

Nye refused to say what she would do if the authorities demand she leave. "We have been arrested, imprisoned and lost our jobs in the past for our stands," explained Nye.

During World War II, the Quakers were active in support of the Jews caught under Nazi rule. Since then many US Jews have turned against the Quakers for what they claim is their support of the Palestinians. Nye defends the allegations of anti-Semitism which are directed at the Quakers. "We are concerned with the plight of Palestinians. This is in complete harmony with the historic tradition of the Quakers which has always been in support of homeless, stateless people and people who have been deprived of their rights."

HEBRON UNIVERSITY FACULTY NEXT IN LINE

## Military Issue Stop-work Order to Six Foreigners

Six English literature teachers at Hebron University were ordered January 8 to stop lecturing by the local military authorities. No official reason was given. The six teachers, of Irish, British and Australian citizenship, were given the order after being summoned, along with chairman of the board of trustees, Muhammad Rashed Ja'abari, and Hebron University President Khulqi Khanfar, to meet 'Major Baruch' at the military headquarters in Hebron.

Summoning each teacher separately Major Baruch reportedly informed them: "If you continue teaching at the university, you violate the law." Each said they asked for an explanation, but received "evasive" answers. The Israeli major did not ask teachers to sign any document but registered the date of expiry of their current work permits.

Muhammad Rashed Ja'abari said he was told by Major Baruch that the authorities intend to summon the rest of the foreign teachers at Bir Zeit Bethlehem and al-Najah universities.

Last Autumn 26 foreign passport-holding teachers in West Bank universities were deported following their refusal to sign an anti-PLO oath now incorporated by the Israelis into the occupied territories' work permit applications. Over 30 teachers have been forbidden to teach.

Sources on the **ad hoc** committee established by foreign teachers to oppose the new oath told **Al Fajr** that the Vice-President of Bethlehem University Brother Thomas Scanlon, will go next week to the Vatican to meet the pope. While there he will discuss the educational situation in the West Bank.

## RAID ON BOOKSHOP

A bookshop owner was arrested and dozens of publications were confiscated during an Israeli raid in Ramallah, January 8. Israeli soldiers broke into Hassan Dandis's bookshop and confiscated dozens of photographs of the Sabra and Shatila massacre, copies of **Know Your Homeland** magazine and a video cassette about the massacre.

Dandis, a former journalist at **Al Shaab**, and publisher of **Know Your Homeland** was arrested and taken to Moscobiyya (Russian Compound) detention centre in Jerusalem. The Jerusalem magistrates court turned down a request to release him on bail January 10.

An editor on Dandis' magazine told **Al Fajr** that the arrest is "arbitrary because the publications confiscated are not prohibited." The magazine concentrates on articles about charitable institutions in the West Bank and is distributed only in these institutions.

Israeli official spokesmen continue to deny any direct responsibility for the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

DISCRIMINATION IN TUITION PAYMENTS

## Katzav Policy Affects Arab Students in Israeli Universities

Concern and resentment have been building up among the Palestinian students in Israeli universities in the last few months at what they call 'the racist decisions of the Katzav committee.' The committee, which was set up by the Israeli education and finance ministries early last year, determines university fees and the criteria for grants and academic fees reductions. In their first year of operation, Arab students complain, the committee set fees at IS18,000 which was tied to the index. The criteria for relief and grants drawn up completely excludes Arab students from any of the privileges enjoyed by Jewish students.

The committee decided that those who served in the army, who live in development areas or who come from large families with children in the army are entitled to a 50 percent reduction in fees. None of the Arab students come from development areas as defined in Israeli planning laws and most Arabs are not drafted like other young Israeli citizens. "Since the fee of IS18,000 was tied to the index," said Jamal Mahajneh, a member of the Arab Students Committee in the Hebrew University, "Palestinian students will have to pay about IS40,000 by the end of the academic year."

The Katzav policy has already started to affect Arab students. Some students who were accepted in Israeli universities for the current year withdrew their applications as soon as the decisions were announced. Kameelia Khoury from Kufr Yasif, Galilee, who gained a place to study chemistry this year, cancelled her application because her family could not afford the fees. Jamal Mahajneh told **Al Fajr** that his brother was also forced to do the same after he was accepted in the Haifa Technion.

### ESTIMATE A PERCENTAGE OF DROP-OUTS

Students who are in mid-course have also been affected. Mahmoud Kassim, a second year student in economics at Hebrew University, told **Al Fajr** that he was forced to reduce his course load in order to work. "Although this means I will spend an additional year here, I have no other solution," he explained.

According to Jawad Boulus, a member in the Arab Students Union, the decisions of the Katzav committee are merely "a version, and application of, the infamous Koenig document. I view these decisions as part of the existing Israeli discriminatory policy against Arabs in general and as preparation of the ground for further racist policies." The Koenig report — drafted in 1976 by Commissioner of the Northern District Israel Koenig — called for Arab intellectuals to be excluded from Israeli universities as a way of encouraging their emigration. "The Israeli authorities' next step might be confining higher education only to those who serve in the army," predicted Jamal. He said that it has been special policy adopted by the Israelis since the establishment of their state to "make the Arabs ignorant in order to ease control over them." He quoted statements from Uriel Lubrani, the former prime minister's advisor for Arab affairs, who said in 1962 that the Arabs in Israel should be "hewers of wood and drawers of water."

### Reactions

Several measures have been taken by the Palestinian students to face the decisions of the Katzav committee starting early last month with a press conference called by the Arab Students Union to explain the subject to the general public. General meetings and demonstrations were held in front of the Knesset and on university campuses over the last four weeks which called for the cancellation of the committee's decisions. On December 14 the Arab Students Committee in Jerusalem decided at a general meeting not to pay the second installments of their fees and to submit the bills to the university administration. The union has sent letters to the local Arab authorities explaining to them the implications of the new policy and asking them to act in support.

According to student leaders they are now working on a plan to call a general strike in the entire education system in the Palestinian community. "We will not spare any effort to foil this racist and dangerous step. We will not give up our right to education," one of them told **Al Fajr.**

# FARADIS-GALILEE FACING A HOMELESS FUTURE

Along the 60-kilometre western edge of the Carmel mountains between Haifa and Hadera only one village still stands as visible testimony that Palestinians once lived in the area. The village of Faradis, 33 kilometres south of Haifa, was once one of a string of Palestinian villages such as Tantoura, Qumbaz, Hod and Ghazal. These neighbouring villages were completely destroyed during the Israeli-Arab 1948 war, and their inhabitants, some of whom sought refuge in Faradis, were never allowed to return home and rebuild.

### Lands and Housing

The village forms a long and narrow rectangular strip, squeezed into such a shape as much from a shortage of available land as from geographical barriers. From the east a steep series of rocky hills blocks the expansion of the village. From the west the main Haifa-Hadera road sharply cuts off the village and separates the mountains from a large plain which continues on to the sea coast. From the north and the south village expansion has been thwarted by the Israeli government which claims that the village has reached its defined borders.

Like in many other truncated Palestinian villages, one of the major crises facing the locals is housing. "If the Israelis hadn't confiscated our lands, we wouldn't have been in such a mess," said an old man who is living with his two married sons in a house measuring only 10 by 12 metres.

The rapid growth of population has exacerbated the crowded housing conditions for the 5000 locals. Every possible spot has been utilised with houses today built one beside another and internal roads made narrower.

### Eviction

Faradis's 4404 dunums of land were reduced to 2160 dunums in a major confiscation campaign carried out by the Israelis shortly after 1948. About 1800 dunums of the available lands are devoted to agriculture and, in any event, are far from the village and off-limits for building. The remaining lands, a measly 360 dunums, have been filled to capacity by homebuilders.

The confiscated lands were transferred to the jurisdiction of Zichron Yaakov, a Jewish settlement located two kilometres away from the village, and to Hof Hacarmel, a regional council which controls several settlements.

Since 1952, when the first local council was set up in Faradis, residents have been struggling through legal means to have the village's lands returned. The struggle intensified in the last four years, as the housing crisis escalated. The current head of the local council, Najat Mara'ani, has spearheaded the drive for the restoration of the lands. In 1978 he sent letters to government officials and twice raised the issue in the Knesset, in 1978 and in 1979, until the authorities were embarrassed into complying with part of the village's demand. The fruit of all this struggle was the release of only 500 dunums. "But this amount doesn't provide a solution," said Mara'ani who added that the "entire land which was robbed from us should be returned so that we can get out of this hell. The local council," pledged Najat, "will continue to pressure the government by all means available until our problem is solved."

The local council has received 200 applications for tracts of land from families who need to build new houses. But their problems cannot be solved in the hands of the local council, which must wait for an answer from the interior ministry.

Abdel Ra'af Musa, a trainee lawyer told **Al Fajr**, "I live in one room with my mother. My books are stacked on the floor. I have been waiting more than four years for the government to agree to sell me a piece of land."

### Marked Discrimination

According to the head of the Faradis local council, the ZichronYaakov settlement of comparable population receives six times the funds that Faradis does. "I don't need to explain to you the forms of discrimination between us and them. If you know the situation of Nazareth and Upper Nazareth (Jewish inhabited), it is enough."

As one resident graphically put the situation: "While we are demanding permanent school rooms instead of renting rooms, Zichron Yaakov is demanding a second swimming pool or a third youth club, none of which we have."

A sewage network still awaits financial coverage. Drawing for the project were completed two years ago but the authorities refused to pay the necessary funds, claiming they do not have enough money. "The village is resting in a pool of drainage water," said Mara'ani. The dirt and drainage water can be seen surfacing in many places in the village because the private sewage pools have already filled, and the valley, the only place for drainage water, has been banned by virtue of an order from the Israeli agriculture and health ministries.

### Agriculture

Although the entire plain extending from Haifa to Hadera is irrigated, the 300 dunums of village lands which cut the plain into two parts, are not. The Israeli authorities have not approved the requests of Faradis farmers that their lands be provided with water, too.

In 1968, a cooperative water society was established by farmers in the village to lobby the agriculture ministry to approve the water expenditure for the irrigation of lands as it does with the neighbouring Jewish farmers. After four years, in 1972, only 300 dunums were approved for irrigation, but water was limited in quantity and duration: 200 cubic meters for each dunum and for only three summer months. One farmer told **Al Fajr** that a new cooperative society was recently founded to renew the struggle for improvement of the remaining lands.

Agriculture supports only 10 percent of the population, the rest of the population are hired workers at Israeli Jewish-owned sites in towns and settlements.

### Schools and Youths

About 1400 pupils have been studying in fewer than 40 school rooms of which 20 are rented. The average number of pupils per room is 35-40. This year a new school building has been completed and some of the rented rooms will be abandoned. The school administrator told **Al Fajr** that overcrowdedness had caused 50 percent of the pupils to fail. The ministry of education, he said, have shown no attention or concern for educational conditions "If we don't demand improvement, they will never initiate it," he added.

High school education is not available in the village. About 200 high school students have to commute more than two hours a day to Haifa to attend classes. Besides the loss of time, transportation expenses are a heavy burden.

After the shortage of land, the main problem facing the high school building programme is the refusal of the ministry to grant permission. Again lack of money was the excuse.

Those who failed in school and who found themselves as hired labourers with no profession, flock every evening to the central square of the village to sit in the many cafes. "There is no other place for them to spend their time and no money to build a youth club," said the head of the council.

# RACIST DISCRIMINATION LEADS TO TAIBEH CRIME

In the last years — Taibeh — one of the largest Palestinian villages within the boundaries of the state of Israel — has experienced what has been termed locally, "a dangerous deterioration of its social situation." Its 20,000-plus opulation has been left insecure and destabilised because of the emergence of a major local crime wave.

Break-ins to houses, stealing or arson attacks on cars, shooting at houses and attacks on pedestrians have become frequent phenomena. Thefts are an almost daily occurence. While they describe what might be called a crime wave, locals insist that the total number of those involved in such crimes is no more than 40—all of them youths between the ages of 16 and 22. The perpetrators are known to almost everyone in the village—except, it seems, the police. Analysing much of what has taken place in the village, locals stress that most of the acts are carried out merely "for the sake of sabotage." During the last two months there have been 20 house break-ins and five cases of cars set on fire. Thieves take small amounts of money and gold in their robberies. On April 30 there was an arson attack on the Communist Party club in the village which destroyed furniture worth IS 100,000. Two years ago a man was shot dead in the village and the home of the head of the local council was fired at.

### The Reasons for Corruption

The rapid growth of the village population, and the commensurate growth in the number of young people—they make up 60 percent of the total, according to recent estimates—with no concurrent development of youth facilities, most people say, is the reason for the crime wave. Until a year ago there were, apart from the Communist Party club, no centres for entertainment or welfare, and no clubs for educational or social activity.

Since the growth of the youth problem, however, the local council has stepped in and singlehandedly established clubs in an attempt to stem the growing youth problem."But," Abd al-Latif, head of the local council told *Al Fajr*, "this was too late."

In the Taibeh youth 'sub-culture' most young people spend their free time in cafes or just walking the streets. Abd al-Latif binds the village's deteriorating social situation for the prevailing political situation in Israel, specifically discrimination against Arabs.

He also puts some of the blame on past deficiencies of local councils—especially their tardiness in pressuring the government to meet its obligations to the village's youth. However, he firmly attributes the main blame for the present "sense of non-belonging pervading the youth" to the "Israeli oppression of the Arabs."

One of the village's social workers put it more clearly: "the youths have nothing to do and find no place to go for release after school or work. In this situation there's always the possibility that doing something—even crime—will appeal more than sitting around."

According to the social worker, neither the police nor the ministry of education—the two bodies primarily responsible for the situation—have done anything for youth. "There are no suitable centres for young people, either in elementary or secondary school. Until recently even the schools themselves were without walls, gymnasia or even playgrounds."

At the level of social welfare, the village has only recently been assigned its first six social workers, even though under law every 1000 people should have one social worker.

Meanwhile, the police, locals accuse, have been very lenient in their attitude towards the saboteurs. Shakir Aazim, a member of the worker's council of Taibeh, told *Al Fajr* that the Israeli police know all of the criminals operating in the village. "The only thing," he said, "that the police do against them is arresting them for one day or another and then releasing them. Consequently, I believe that the police are encouraging them, either by direct or indirect ways to divert their attention from the oppressive policy."

Some locals see the police as part of the problem. They say there have been several recent attacks on people sitting peacefully in cafes. During one of these attacks on people, including the local council head, a policeman was sitting with a friend in one of the village cafes.

"It is ridiculous that they attack peaceful people while the criminals are going to-and-fro freely," said the head.

### Measures

The spread of crime in Taibeh has been the focus of the local council's attention, as well as that of other unofficial groups and bodies for the past four years. In the first instance the local council asked the police to take the necessary measures and increase its surveillance of the criminals. But the police have not complied with the local council's request.

Then, last year, despite the insufficient budget, a professional training school and three youth centres were opened in the village in an attempt to absorb and help dozens of youths and save them from being dragged into crime.

However, these measures are not enough to eradicate the roots of the problem. Thefts and muggings still occur from time to time. Shakir Aazim told *Al Fajr*, "the new steps taken by the local council have only alleviated the problem, but unless the roots of the problem are removed, crime will continue."

He believes that the roots of the problem lie in what he called the "existing capitalist and racist regime. The political and economic crisis of the regime produces social and moral problems too."